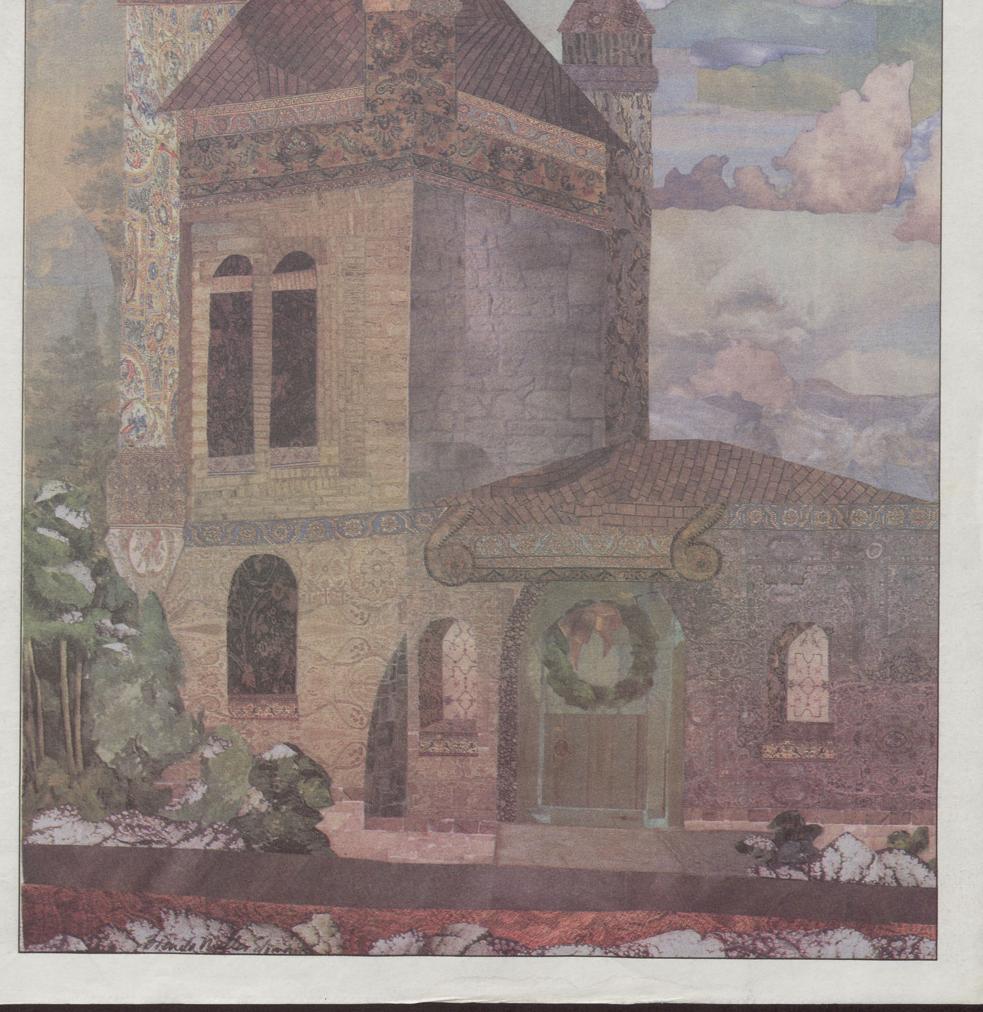
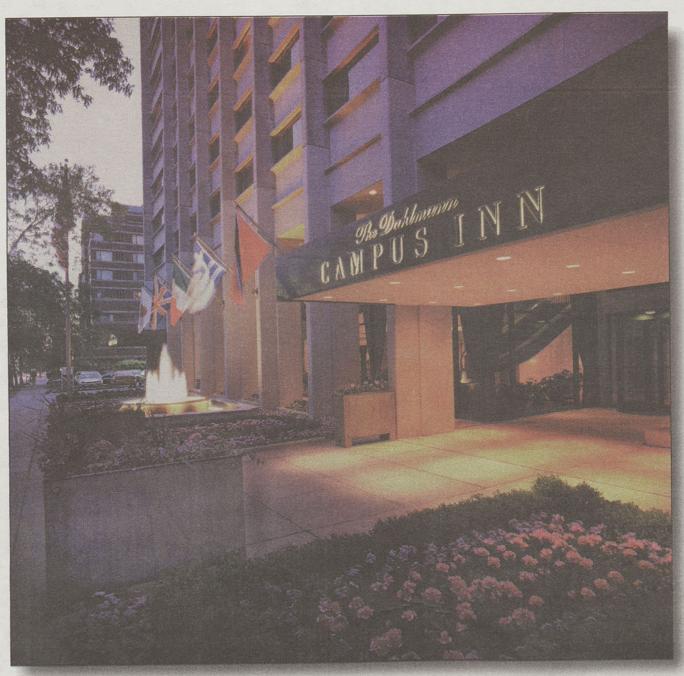
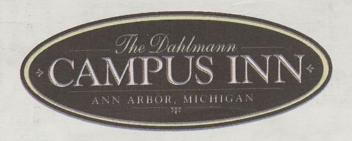
Ann Aroor Observer

December 2000



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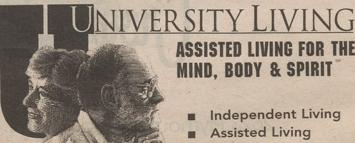
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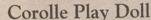
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December 2000

25 VOI. no. 4

Cover: The 1882 First Unitarian Church on State, today the offices of Hobbs & Black Architects. Collage by Brenda Miller Slomovits.



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- features -

Gay in Ann Arbor Charmie Gholson A biographical history.

The County's CEO Eve Silberman He won on the homeless shelter. He lost on the new courthouse. But win or lose, Bob Guenzel has given what he calls the "invisible government" unexpected clout.

A Tale of Two Cities David Stringer Ann Arbor versus Gainesville.

The First Settlement Grace Shackman Orange Risdon's 1825 map captured Michigan in its infancy.

departments -

Up Front Don Hunt, Paul R. Schwankl

Inside Ann Arbor Ken Garber, Don Hunt, Randy H. Milgrom, Grace Shackman, Tim Athan

Calls & Letters Joe Upton is not Tony Ramirez • The Sushi Shop lives! Wedding guests

Crime Update Minors, sex, and the law Lowell Cauffiel

Schools Spotlight A new high school? Randy H. Milgrom & John Hilton

Ann Arborites Legendary 1960s radical Al Haber Eve Silberman

Around Town A view from the Huron Parkway bridge Roberta Morris

Then & Now The U-M's Lane Hall Grace Shackman

61 Holiday Guide Laura McReynolds, Grace Shackman A holiday shopping guide and two seasonal Then & Nows.

Restaurants Zydeco Louisiana Kitchen Elizabeth Méricas Zanzibar · Margaret Yang

123 Marketplace Changes Laura McReynolds Motte & Bailey, Booksellers, opens with 8,000 titles • grilled Spam and fluffernutter at Sweet Memories • Collected Works moves to the Market Place building • Sunflower Cafe replaces the Lonely Hearts Club • and more.

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calendar -December Events John Hinchey & Laura Bien

115 Music at Nightspots John Hinchey

advertising sections 130 Classifieds & Service Advertisers

137 Real Estate Guide

See Our Insert Following Page 74 for Holiday Helpers from...



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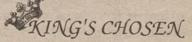
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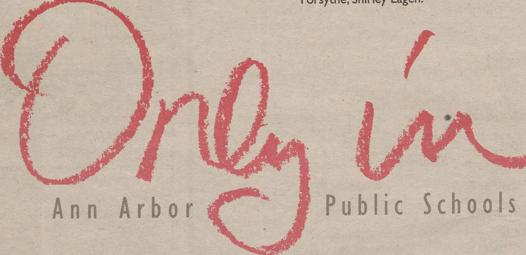
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2000-2001 Ann Arbor Public Schools **Educational Foundation Grant Recipients**

List of 2000-2001 AAPS Educational Foundation Grant recipients. Twenty-five grants were awarded for a total of \$21,267. Don Faber, Chairperson of the Foundation's Distribution Committee introduced the winner at the November 8th Board of Education meeting.

- •\$1,000, "JAZZistry," High School History Classes, Linda Prieskorn and Lynda Berg.
- •\$649, "Maps 101," Scarlett, Linda Prieskorn.
- •\$750, "Hands-on Literacy: Lending Library," Angell, Tracey Metry.
- •\$1,000, "Musical Production," Clague, Alice VanWambeke.
- •\$1,000, "Kids are Kids the Whole World Round," Northside, Susan Hoover.
- •\$990, "Graphing Calculator Technology for Algebra Support," Pioneer, Kristin Chatas.
- •\$998, "Creating an Exemplary Physical Education Curriculum," Carpenter, Lisa Cope.
- •\$750, "Large Print Library" for grades 4 through 8, Mack, Catherine Flynn.
- •\$967, "Arbor Youth Poetry Slam," Pioneer, Huron, and Community, Jeff Kass.
- •\$1,000, "Volume-Ann Arbor Project-Youth Poetry CD," Pioneer, Jeff Kass.
- •\$400, "Trailblazers," Pioneer, Sara Vance.
- •\$700, "Process Drama in the Classroom," Angell, Joan Singer.
- •\$980, "Integrating Music, Movement & Musical Instrument Playing into the First Grade Curriculum," Logan, Ann Borders.
- •\$980, "7th Grade Language Arts Anthology," Forsythe, Shirley Eagen.



Superintendent Dr. Rossi Ray-Taylor

Board of Education Bob Rasmussen, President Ellen Daniel, Vice President Bill Browning Kathleen Conway Karen D. Cross Henry L. McQueen Brad Orr Bob Rorke Sari Shifrin

For information on these, or any other program of the Ann Arbor Public Schools, please contact Dr. Deb Small, Executive Director for Community Relations, at 734-994-2236. (Ad design by Wendy Everett)

- •\$1,000, "Summer Music Camp Scholarship Program at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp," Middle Schools, Fred Smith.
- •\$1,000, "Literacy Through Creative Drama & Music," Burns Park, Cynthia Page-Bogen.
- •\$913, "Using Data Collection Probes in Chemistry and Biology Classrooms," Huron, Aimee Brazil and Mara Krause.
- •\$400, "Homework Club," Clague, Linda Grieshauber and Noel L. Folks.
- •\$1,000, "Reading the Landscape-Miller's Creek & Huron River Watershed-A Sense of Place, A Sense of Quality, A Sense of Time," Huron, Jennifer Puntenney.
- •\$1,450, "Students Educating Each Other About Discrimination (SEED)," Community, Cindy Haidu-Banks.

- •\$500, "Huron High School Gospel Choir," Huron, Denise Eaddy-Richardson.
- •\$440, "Enhancing the unit 'The Family,' " Eberwhite, Jane D. Ferris.
- •\$1,000, "Mosaics as Objects of Expression," Clague, Joan Wenk.
- •\$400, "Sound of Science for New Speakers of English," Clague, Mary Ellen Wible.
- •\$1,000, "African American Humanities Dance Project," Huron, Kay Wade and Krystal Hall. For more information contact Norma McCuiston at 994-8139.

Pioneer Principal Henry L. Caudle receives award from The Journalism Education Association

The Journalism Education Association, at its national fall convention November 18 in Kansas City, awarded the "High School Administrator of the Year" to Henry L. Caudle, principal of Pioneer High School for his outstanding dedication to high school journalism. The Journalism Education Association is the nation's leading organization for journalism and media educators. In May Caudle received the Newseum's Courage in Student Journalism Award. This award recognizes a school administrator who has demonstrated support, under difficult circumstances, for the First Amendment press rights for student media. Caudle received the award, including a \$5,000 check which he then donated to Central High School's journalism department in Davenport, Iowa where Caudle was principal for three years before accepting the position at Pioneer.

Local Educator Participates in a NASA **Education Workshop**

lill Everett, an educator at Burns Park Elementary School, was one of 25 participants who recently attended a two-week summer workshop at the NASA Stennis Space Center in Mississippi. The workshop was one of 18 NASA Educational Workshops (NEW) conducted at the ten NASA Field Centers. During the workshop, Jill observed NASA's state-of-the-art research and development through direct interaction with NASA scientists, engineers, technicians, and educational specialists. A national panel of educational experts evaluated submitted applications and selected the top ranked 250 educators for participation in the summer 2000 NASA Educational Workshop Program. The participants represented all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Guam.

Annual Financial Audit Receives Highest Opinion

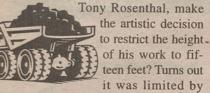
The Business Services Division, in its 1999-00 Annual Financial Audit, once again received from Plante & Moran a clean opinion which is the highest rating a district can receive. This clean opinion speaks to the district's system of internal control in the area of finance. Many thanks to Ormeela Lapp, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services, Donna Welch, Finance Officer, and her staff, Linda Doernte and Jane Scheff in the Grants Office for their dedication and hard work in facilitating the audit process.

Incensed: Steve Spence, managing editor of Car and Driver, hit the roof when a Volvo ad exec told the Wall Street Journal that buying an ad was "sort of the price of entry to get your car reviewed" in the Ann Arbor-based magazine. "Absurd," "clue-

√ less," and "libelous" were a few of the choice words Spence used in a spirited letter that the Journal subsequently printed. Chatting with us from CD's Hogback Road ed-

itorial offices, Spence explained that the world's largest car magazine (circulation 1,350,000) carefully tests every production car that costs less than \$63,750 (or 2.5 times the cost of the average new car). About 150 cars are tested every year, and most are put through their paces at the DaimlerChrysler proving grounds near Chelsea or at other tracks around the country. Last February the magazine's senior technical director, Don Schroeder, was killed when testing a souped-up Mercedes at a track in Texas. The car went out of control on a curve at over 160 miles per hour. Car and Driver started out in 1955 as a New York-based magazine called Sports Car Illustrated and moved to Ann Arbor in the 1970s to be close to the Big Three. It's now owned by the French publishing empire Hachette Filipacchi.

Mystery solved: When the "Cube" -officially titled Endover-was installed in Regents' Plaza in 1968, the 2,400-pound black sculpture immediately became a campus landmark. At Halloween the sight of a four-year-old dressed as a ladybug delightedly twirling the massive piece on its well-balanced axis reminded us of how many fond memories the Cube has created. But why did the sculptor, U-M alum



the size of the largest truck that could be found to haul such a large object to Ann

What does it cost? \$675-\$875-fourby-ten-foot burial plot in beautiful, oakfilled Forest Hill Cemetery (established 1859) on Geddes Avenue (6,000 spots still available, 27,000 occupied) ... \$28,000

forty arrangements of topiary white orchids for an Ann Arbor wedding, by Tom Thompson Flowers . . . \$500—cash required by A Bail Bonds to get out of jail on a

\$5,000 court-imposed bond . . \$2,100-\$2,400—rebuilding the engine of just about any Honda or Toyota car, by Select Auto Service on Platt . . . \$340 pair of men's Mission hockey skates, at Modern Skate & Surf . . . \$180-tandem parachute jump from 10,000-13,000 feet with

instructor (includes one-hour lesson, fortyfive to sixty seconds in free fall, and four to six minutes before reaching terra firma), at Napoleon Skydiving Center . . . \$7,000-\$8,000—single Ann Arbor performance by James Dapogny's Chicago Jazz Band . . . \$95,944 full-page ad on the back cover of Ann Arbor-based Auto-

mobile Magazine (circulation 625,000) . . . \$15—copy of the gestalt-reversal poster All Is Vanity or Gossip from Nickels Arcade's Caravan Shop.

Vulnerable position: Coach Red Berenson's U-M ice hockey team is once again a national powerhouse. Hockey's a gladiatorial sport, and protecting players, especially the goalie, from serious injury is a major challenge. We chatted with the team's equipment manager, Ian Hume, who noted that while he pays \$110 for an ordinary pair of hockey gloves, the goalie's stick glove alone costs \$175 and his catch glove is \$275. A standard pair of shoulder pads run \$100, while a goalie's



arm and chest protector costs \$350. Some things, like Bauer skates (\$285), socks (\$15), pants (\$120), and jerseys (\$150), run the same for goalies and the other players, Hume points out. But the dramatic difference is in helmets. A regular hockey player's helmet with face mask, even with its fancy maize-and-blue stripes, costs just \$50. The U-M goalie's mask costs \$900. Even with all that expensive protective gear, U-M goalie Josh Blackburn got mauled in a game with Miami when an opponent ran over him.

Subdued revolution: Talk to Van Boven Clothing's Gary Clark about men's

clothes and you get an ebullient view of how wonderfully better off men are today. Clark's the buyer at the venerable shop at the entrance of Nickels Arcade on State Street that has

served well-heeled gentlemen since 1921. There's an understated British upper-class aura to Van Boven. You enter a sedate, snug emporium of soft-spoken salesmen. There are no glaring promotions, just neat racks and shelves of high-quality, mostly muted apparel. It's the type of quaint place you might expect to fade into obscurity as men's office attire becomes increasingly casual. But Clark has managed to maintain the store's classy ambience while effecting a radical change in its inventory. A trim, intense, bespectacled man in his fifties, Clark was the first person hired at Van Boven in thirty-five years when he joined the firm in 1990. Under his watchful eye, sales have actually increased substantially even as the heavy tweed sport coats,

dark conservative suits, and regimental ties, once signature items, now fetch only a fraction of their former share of overall revenue. You need

only look at what Clark himself is wearing to see the sartorial revolution he's accomplished. While a decade ago no Van Boven clerk would be caught dead without a coat and tie, Clark could be seen one fall afternoon dressed in a brown stretch synthetic knit polo shirt (buttoned at the top) along with taupe slacks of Tencel and microfiber. The change is toward high-performance comfort clothing-drapy, flexible, mostly synthetic fabrics that travel well and don't bind. It's a revolution, he points out, that's been driven as much by technological innovations in fabrics as by changes in tastes. True, Van Boven sells almost as many traditional sport coats and suits as ever, but that's largely because of the disappearance of so many other men's clothing stores in central Ann Arbor. Upscale casual clothing keeps Van Boven thriving

Big: It hardly comes as a surprise in these boom times that the new Ann Arbor area Ameritech phone book arrives at a recordsetting 1,403 pages. It's not big enough yet to split into separate

books for the white and yellow pages, as in megalopolises like Chicago, but it's getting pretty darn heavy-3.63 pounds. This year there are sixty-three more pages of residential and business listings. But page comparisons can be deceiving, because Ameritech has greatly increased the number of zip codes included in the white pages, causing a lot more listings to spill over to a second line. The designers have compensated by going to smaller type that squeezes six more lines into each column, but even so, the new book averages just eighty-eight phone numbers per column, down by ten from a year ago. We guesstimated that about 127,000 numbers are list-

ed this year, up 3 percent over last year. The big growth is in the business section, where pages are up 16 percent, to 140. We couldn't figure out what that meant in numbers, though, because display ads threw our counts off-and when we tried to ask Ameritech, they did-

n't return our calls.

Critical job: Few motorists driving along Platt past spacious County Farm Park have any inkling of the frequent moments of high drama within the sprawling white stucco building opposite the park's entrance. It has the plodding name "Transplantation Society of Michigan," but the mission of its 100 employees is to move swiftly in life-and-death situations. Some 2,600 Michigan residents, each with a pager, are waiting anxiously for a call from TSM. They all vitally need an organ-a heart, kidney, lung, pancreas, or liver. When one becomes available, a complex sequence of events must unfold with precise swiftness. From the time a heart or lung is removed from a brain-dead donor in, say, Petoskey, a surgeon who may be hundreds of miles away at one of the state's nine transplant hospitals (the U-M's is one) has only four hours to put it in the recipient. Oddly, the trickiest part often is gaining a relative's permission quickly enough to remove the organ of an accident victim. That's the job of one of twenty-seven TSM coordinators scat-

tered across the state. But the subsequent logistics handled at TSM headquarters here seem even

more daunting: quickly

lining up both a surgeon to remove the organ and another to do the transplantation, speedily transporting the organ (often by helicopter or special plane) to the transplantation hospital, and rushing an eligible recipient to the hospital to be prepped for the operation. Remarkably few transplantation efforts fail (367 successful transplants oc-

curred in the state last year). The problem is finding suitable donors. Last year 147 Michigan residents died waiting for an or-

Relax! Dentist Richard Han has learned that the holiday season is a bad time to

take a vacation. Han, who's been o practicing in Ann Arbor since 1967, says he typically



sees a jump in the number of patients with sore or even broken teeth during the last six weeks of the year. The dentist next door to him has noticed the same thing, Han says. So what's causing all the damage-people overindulging in holiday candy? Nope, says Han: it's people grinding their teeth in response to all that holiday stress.



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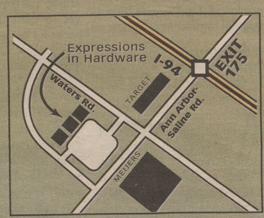
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POLITICS

More and More Liberal

For anyone still dreaming of a Republican comeback in Ann Arbor, the November election was a rude awakening.

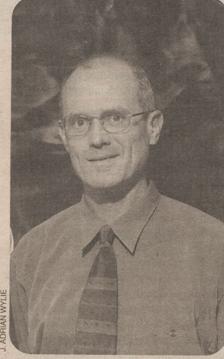
s they did in 1996, local voters went nearly three to one for the Democratic presidential candidate. Ann Arbor gave 36,599 votes to Al Gore and a mere 13,475 to George W. Bush. Add in the 2,419 voters (4.5 percent) who backed the Green Party's Ralph Nader, and the leftward trend appears even more overwhelming.

But the truly astonishing result came in the mayor's race. Four years ago the Democratic tide stopped dead at the door of the mayor's office, where incumbent Republican Ingrid Sheldon fended off Democrat Chris Kolb by a solid, 2,400-vote margin. This year, with Sheldon retiring, the Republicans fielded a very credible newcomer, Stephen Rapundalo. Informed and articulate, Rapundalo focused his campaign on the city's upcoming infrastructure needs—needs that even his Democratic opponent, John Hieftje, agreed had to be addressed. Yet Hieftje won every single one of Ann Arbor's fifty-three precincts.

Hieftje's clean sweep—unprecedented in Ann Arbor history—punctuates the amazing transformation of what was once a deeply Republican city. A majority of Ann Arborites voted for Hoover against Roosevelt in 1932, and voters here even favored Nixon over Kennedy in 1960. At the turn of the millennium, however, even once impregnable bastions of conservative strength have fallen to the Democrats. Lansdowne, the subdivision along Scio Church Road, has long been known as a Republican stronghold, giving President Bush 60 percent of its vote in 1988. This year 58 percent of its residents voted for Gore. In the mayor's race even Ann Arbor Hills, traditionally home of Ann Arbor's most well-heeled Republicans, favored Hieftje over Rapundalo.

Hieftje's wide appeal may stem in part from his deep aversion to higher taxes. But even there he may be to the right of many Ann Arborites. Voters renewed a city parks millage by 37,000 to 10,000, sustaining one of the most lavishly funded park systems in the country. Ann Arborites also voted solidly in favor of a successful county millage to preserve natural areas and were one of the few groups in the county to support the unsuccessful effort to build an expanded county justice center downtown (54 percent of Ann Arborites voted to approve the millage, versus 38 percent of the rest of the county).

INSIDE ann arbor



New Democratic mayor John Hieftje swept every precinct in the city.

One factor behind the rising Democratic tide may be the growth in recent years of the heavily liberal U-M staff. Since 1990 the Ann Arbor campus has grown by almost 5,000 employees, to 28,891. Many of these added U-M staffers don't live in Ann Arbor, but a sizable number undoubtedly do. Contrast this net buildup of liberals with the biggest local downsizing in the past two decades—the closing in 1984 of the 950-employee Bechtel engineering office on South State Street. When Bechtel left town, so did a sizable body of Republicans.

When eighteen-year-olds got the vote in 1971, the U-M student turnout greatly added to the local Democratic strength. But these days students are no longer the city's most ardent Dems. The student East Quad precinct gave 72 percent of its votes to Gore versus just 20 percent for Bush, with almost all of the balance going to Nader. But Gore ran even more strongly in Burns Park, outpolling Bush by 80 percent to 15 percent—a margin of more than five to one!

Recently elected county commissioner Larry Kestenbaum has an intriguing notion of why Ann Arbor's becoming more liberal even as the citizenry becomes more affluent. An attorney who did graduate work in city and regional planning at Cornell, Kestenbaum theorizes that Ann Arbor's leftward march may be a self-selection process. The people most willing to pay Ann Arbor's higher housing costs and taxes are those who relish being a part of a city with a strong progressive image and

who value the urban quality of life here. On the other hand, people who abhor paying taxes and are indifferent to Ann Arbor's amenities—an attractive and vibrant downtown, strong ecological policies, tolerance for gays, a cosmopolitan citizenry, well-subsidized public buses and parks, and a lively arts scene—may see less and less reason to pay a premium to live here.

SPORTS

Another Restart for U-M Men's Basketball

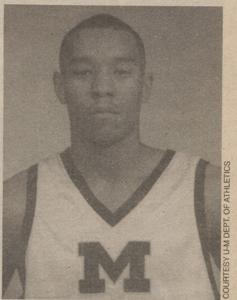
The Wolverines must replace their entire backcourt for the second consecutive year—yet coach Brian Ellerbe suggests the loss of Jamal Crawford and Kevin Gaines will make his team stronger.

he team went into a second-half skid last year when Crawford started serving an NCAA-mandated suspension. Ellerbe had to rely so heavily on Gaines—who was voted team MVP as well as Defensive Player of the Year—that Gaines was nearly exhausted by season's end. Yet without mentioning either player

by name—calling them last year's "two freshman guards," or "the backcourt we had the previous year"—Ellerbe said he wouldn't miss them.

"Without going into detail, without saying anything negative about the individuals no longer with us," he said, "I think our team has gotten stronger."

Keeping your best players—such as last year's sensation, Jamal Crawford, who was chosen eighth overall in the NBA draft after playing barely half of his freshman year—is increasingly difficult in today's college game. But the U-M also dismissed workhorse Gaines following a



Great things have always been expected of LaVell Blanchard, but never more so than this year.

— The Observer Survey —

This month our surveyor wandered about downtown in search of unmarried Ann Arbor women ages twenty-one through thirty-five. Twenty-two answered our questions, half of whom had attended high school or college here, half of whom had not. Here's what we found:

95% agree with the statement "I'm in no hurry to get married."

100% agree with the statement "All in all, Ann Arbor is a good place for a young single woman to live."

18% agree with the statement "I feel my job-getting and promotional opportunities are at least somewhat limited because I'm female."

77% agree with the statement "In general, I feel comfortable walking around Ann Arbor at night alone."

18% regularly attend religious services.

73% chose the phrase "unbelievably

self-righteous" when asked to describe radio personality Dr. Laura Schlessinger (27 percent found the good doctor "severe but convincing"; no one considered her to be "uncommonly wise").

67% agree with the statement "Someday I'd like to have a husband and children."

38% agree with the statement "It's hard to meet eligible men in Ann Arbor."

0% have joined groups or activities to meet guys.

33% prefer "Ms." as a title (10 percent prefer "Miss"; 57 percent have no preference).

32% agree with the statement "Experience has taught me that a lot more guys are jerks than I had ever realized."

45% agree with the statement "I think of myself as a feminist."

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late summer drinking and driving incident, and six-foot-eight forward Leland Anderson transferred during the off-season. That leaves only two sophomores-LaVell Blanchard and Gavin Groninger-from last year's fabulous five freshman class.

Ellerbe has lamented, whenever offthe-court problems have surfaced and sidetracked him, that all he really wants to do is coach. And it's no secret that dealing with the media is his least favorite part of the job. Although he looked confident and comfortable in front of a room crowded with print, radio, TV, and web representatives the day before practice officially began last month, some defensiveness re-

"I don't really look at it as a loss," he insisted when asked about the departure of so many young and promising players. "I think sometimes there is progress with elimination.'

This year's progress will be engineered by the two incoming freshman point guards-six-foot-two Maurice Searight and five-foot-seven Avery Queen-while Groninger and junior Leon Jones will likely go head to head for the right to start at shooting guard. But the centerpiece of this team, along with senior frontcourt partner Josh Asselin, will no doubt be Blanchard. He shared last year's Big Ten Freshman of the Year honors and is a preseason choice for All Big Ten. Great things have always been expected of Blanchard, but never more so than this year.

"The opponent's locker room is going to have his name written all over the board before tip-off," says Ellerbe. "I think he's eager to find out as much as anyone how good he can be."

Ellerbe continues to recruit extremely well, adding exciting six-foot-six forward Bernard Robinson and enormous sevenfoot-two center Josh Moore to the Queen and Searight backcourt to compose an impressive foursome of freshmen. All are expected to be part of this team's top eightor nine-man rotation, and if they contribute, the team could play beyond expectations-which are no higher than for last year, when the team finished with a firstround NIT loss. But the biggest question is not about this year but about the year or two to come. Blanchard has always maintained that he came to the U-M as much for an education as for the opportunity to play college basketball—and that he is staying all four years. Who else will?



5 Rms, Riv Vu

A barn next to the Broadway Bridge is being turned into luxury apartments.

n the past few years apartments or condos have been built in an old department store on Main, a battered National Guard armory on Ann, and even a former church on Fourth Avenue. But the most remarkable tribute to Ann Arborites' sudden desire to live downtown may be Mike Kessler's project to build apartments in a barn on the corner of Depot and Beakes—just a few feet away from the constant traffic of the Broadway Bridge.

The barn was built by the Ann Arbor



Joe Upton is not Tony Ramirez.

In our November election feature, the man pictured on p. 22 was mistakenly identified as First Ward independent candidate Tony Ramirez. In fact, that was Second Ward Republican Joe Upton. In addition, we erred in saying that Ramirez had previously run in the ward as an independent; his earlier campaign, in 1998, was in the Democratic primary. Our apologies to both men.

The Sushi Shop lives!

"It hurts my heart," Juan Melendez said in a phone call, "'cause we're doing very well." Our November Marketplace Changes column caused Melendez's pain by mistakenly including his Packard Street restaurant, the Sushi Shop, among the businesses that didn't make it to their one-year anniversaries.

We were led astray by the fact that the current Ameritech phone book doesn't list the business, while the number we published last year had been disconnected. "That was my home number," Melendez explained. "One of the reasons we changed our number was that months later, we were still getting people calling us up at home [looking for the business]." If we'd thought to look, our own 2000-2001 City Guide would have set us straight: the Sushi Shop is still very much in business, offering sushi, sashimi, and other Japanese dishes, as well as lunchbox specials, party trays, and a "hire a chef' service. The phone number is now 623-8280.

Wedding guests

Last month's feature on Jean Jennings of Automobile Magazine exaggerated the number of industry titans at her 1997 wedding to Tim Jennings. "[GM chairman] Jack Smith wasn't at the wedding," Jennings wrote. "I'd have remembered the gift!



Home on the range: the former gas company barn on Depot in midconversion.

Gas Light Company to house its delivery wagons and horses, probably in 1907. (The wagons hauled coke, a coal gasification by-product that the company sold as a home heating fuel.) After the first natural gas pipeline reached the city in 1937, the barn was used for maintenance operations. James O. Morrison, who worked in the barn in the 1950s, recalls that he and his coworkers unofficially dubbed it the "Ditch Digging Department," since their main job was to hand-dig ditches for gas lines and gas mains. "It was home away from home," Morrison recalls. "We were paid there. We reported there. If it rained we stood in there.'

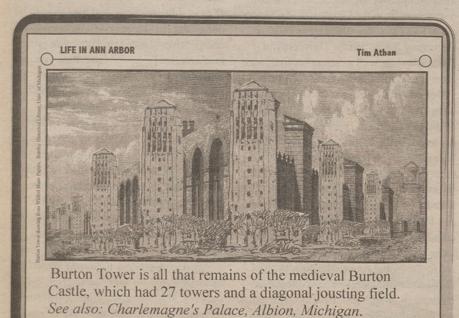
In the mid-1950s the maintenance crews moved out, and the building was used for storage. In 1969 it was sold to activist Charles Thomas, whose Black Economic Development League (BEDL) had been raising money from churches by demanding reparations for past injustices against blacks. He used the money to offer courses for black youths in such upcoming technologies as computers, TV and radio production, solar heating, and photography. In 1973 architect David Byrd and his students built a modern cinder-block building to serve as BEDL's headquarters; the barn was again used for storage.

BEDL's programs petered out as Thomas's health failed. When he died in 1994 both the BEDL building and the barn went to his heirs, who rented and then sold the property to Realtor Thomas Stachler. Stachler found evidences of Thomas's paranoia about government spying, including wire-laced security windows and lead-lined walls. Last March he sold the property to Mark Pfaff, a sales rep for Allied Enterprises, which makes electromechanical and electronic components.

Pfaff has moved his sales office into the front of the new building and has rented the rest of the space to several other businesses. He sold the barn to Mike Kessler, a carpenter, who has also worked as a teacher and in sales. Although Pfaff had inquiries about the barn from people wanting to set up a wine bar, an art studio, or a flower shop, he says he chose to sell it to Kessler because "I didn't want to lose the barn-ness." Says Kessler, "I want to maintain the rustic feel of it all."

Working with architect J. D. Phillips, Kessler is carving out three apartments. Two will be mirror images, using the first floor for a bedroom, studio, and bath and the second floor for a living room, kitchen, bedroom, and bath. Kessler is leaving the beams exposed and keeping the original wood to "keep the feel of the barn."

The urban barn is just a stone's throw from two heavily traveled streets and the busy Norfolk & Southern railroad tracks, not to mention a bridge that's about to be torn down and rebuilt. But all that doesn't scare Kessler and his wife, Serena—they plan to make their own home in an efficiency apartment in the former barn loft. "You can see the river valley," he says of the view. "You can see the train making a curve at Main Street."



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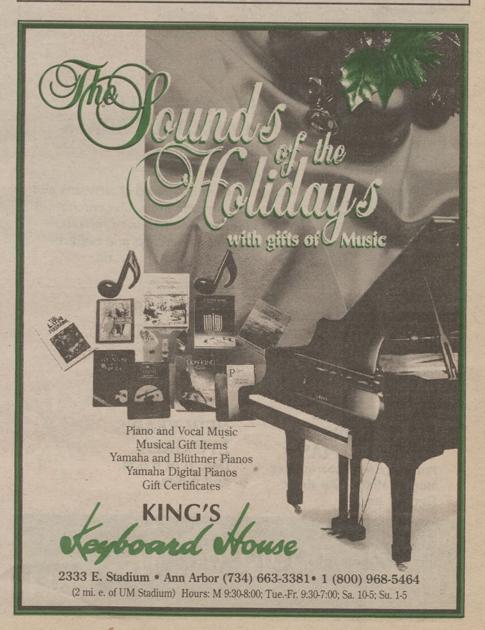
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INSIDE ANN ARBOR continued

M-II

Window on the Nobel

U-M professor Joe Miller's appointment as a nominator to Sweden's Karolinska Institute gives a glimpse into the complex, secretive process of selecting medicine's highest honor: the Nobel Prize.

iller isn't one of the U-M's medical stars. His research—on the causes, prevention, and reversal of hearing loss-is respected but low profile. Miller's office in the Kresge Hearing Research Institute is spare and functional, and his window has a splendid view of the bare wall of the next building. But the honorary degrees from Sweden and Finland hanging on his wall suggest that Miller, sixty-two, is as much a presence in Scandinavia as he is in Ann Arbor. In at least one sense that's true: Miller this year was selected to be a nominator for the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

The Nobel is by far the most prestigious, best known, and most coveted award in the world. In 1895 Swedish scientist Alfred Nobel, the inventor of dynamite, willed much of his estate to fund five annual awards to recognize those who "have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind." Each October eager scientists (and authors and politicians and, since 1969, economists) wait by their phones for the call from Stockholm they desperately hope is coming.

These calls don't come to Ann Arbor. The Nobel is a source of deep frustration for the U-M, which has been shut out for almost an entire century. Finally, last year, emeritus professor Martinus J. G. Veltman won a "Michigan" Nobel, in physics. But despite the hundreds of millions of dollars that U-M researchers bring in each year, none has yet won a Nobel in medicine. Meanwhile, over the last decade, multiple researchers from the University of California at San Francisco (three), Rockefeller University (two), and the University of Texas (two), as well as scientists from nine other universities, won medical Nobels.

Joe Miller's influence over the process, then, could be seen as vicarious validation of the U-M's status, or an opportunity to get a foot in the Nobel door, or both. He himself stresses, however, that his role is relatively modest. "I'm an advisor to the [Nobel] committee," Miller explains. "I'm asked to make nominations . . . and to argue for [them]." In the Nobel selection hierarchy, this is the lowest level. Each year more than 1,000 nominations are submitted to the Nobel Assembly, consisting of fifty faculty members of the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. Five of these make up the Nobel Committee, the assembly's "working body." Formally, the committee

sends a recommendation to the assembly, which awards the prize. But few outsiders know how the decision is made, because the deliberations are closed and the details

The institute jealously guards the secrecy of the Nobel process. "Discussions of possible candidates to the prize in academies, faculties, or other collective bodies shall not take place," nominators are warned in a letter. "Fax and E-mail must not be used." Miller, because he's on the Karolinska faculty, can sit in on Nobel Assembly meetings when he's in Stockholm. where he works during the summer. He didn't do so this year, but that opportunity sets him apart from other U-M scientists who have served as nominators, giving him a rare inside look at the process.

So far Miller thinks the process works fine. "Luckily, with these science Nobel prizes there's not the same level of politics [as with] many of the other prizes," he says. "Not to say there is none. There certainly are groups that push hard for an area [of research] that they think is most important and timely . . . or even candidates." Miller says the Nobel Assembly usually manages to resist outside pressure and effectively reconcile the personal biases of its members to make the correct choice.

But Nobel selections can be controversial. Many biologists cried foul when Salvador Moncada, from University College in London, was not among the three winners of the 1997 prize in physiology or medicine, awarded for the discovery that the simple gas nitric oxide was a vital signaling agent in the human body. Moncada was the first to publish this result, months before the others. Such oversights have led to calls for opening up the processand changing it. "Plainly there is a need to reform the procedures so that egregious and damaging oversights such as those are avoided," argues John Maddox, a former editor of the prestigious scientific journal Nature, writing in a recent issue of the Independent of London. "What world science needs is a thorough overhaul of the Nobel Foundation's work."

Despite the secrecy, candidates often try to manipulate the process. Each prize, honoring a single research area, can go to at most three winners, and the effort to be one of the chosen three can be intensely competitive. "Once you know that [your research area] is in the hunt, then you can influence it," says one U-M scientist. "But how do you influence it? Who knows?

"You know that it's coming, and if you're in the hunt, you can try to influence it by winnowing your way into the Karolinska Institute to give a talk, or anything you can do to influence other scientists," this person says. "It can be successful in the right circumstances, but it can backfire.'

Given scientists' lust for the Nobel, you might expect that since being selected Miller would have received a flood of dinner party invitations, flattering E-mail messages, and birthday cards from colleagues. Miller laughs off the suggestion. "I really haven't," he says. "And I would hope that wouldn't start."

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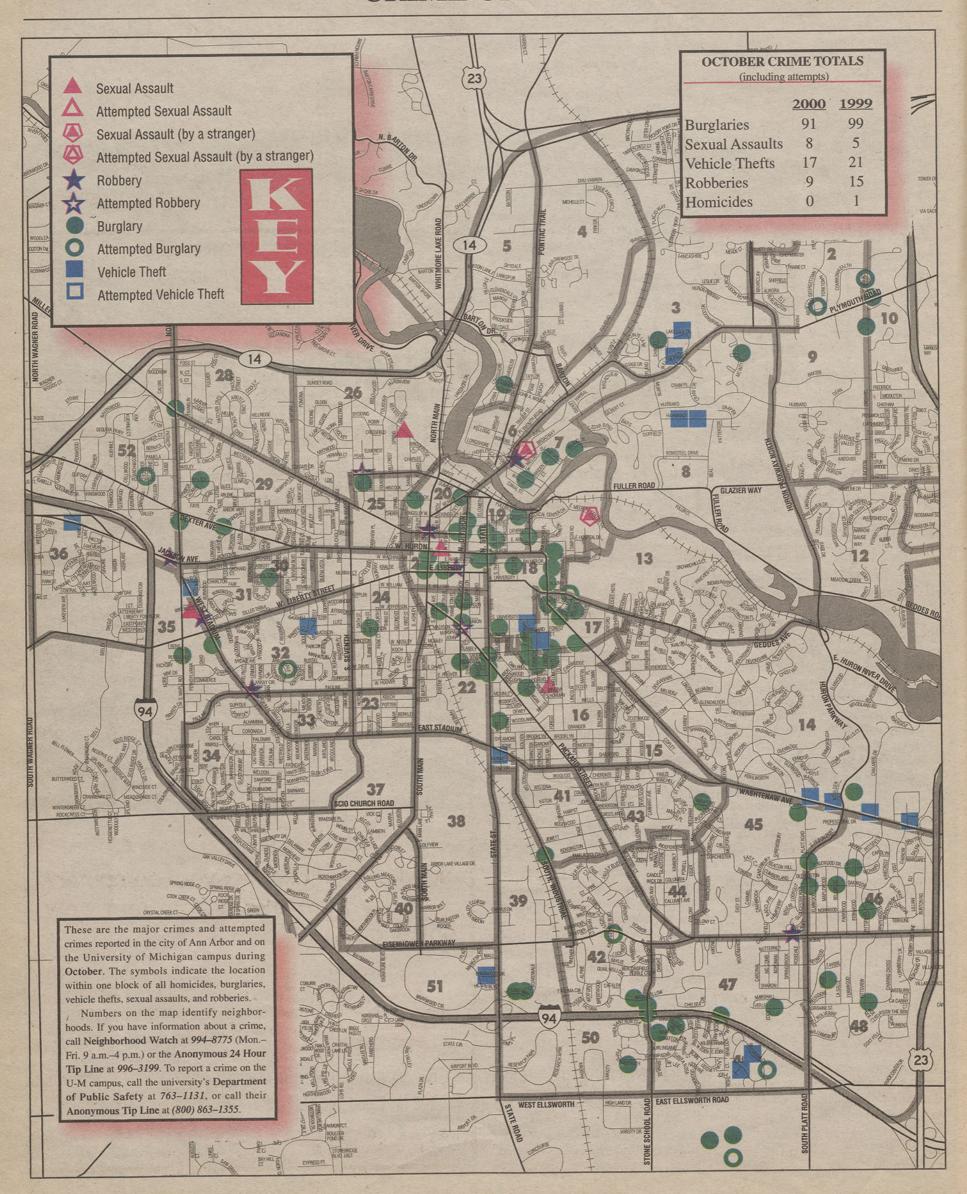
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CRIME UPDATE



Age of consent

Minors, sex, and the law

by Lowell Cauffiel

he calls come in regularly to the Ann Arbor Police Department. They're generated by sexually active teenagers, upset parents, and confusion over the law.

"Last week we got a call from the parents of a sixteen-year-old girl," recalls Debra Ceo, a sergeant in the Family Services Unit. "They found out she was having sex with her nineteen-year-old boyfriend and wanted to know if a crime was being committed."

One was not.

It was a different story in the Detroit suburb of Birmingham. That same week an all-state wrestler from Seaholm High School was scheduled to go to trial for allegedly having sex with a fourteen-yearold freshman in the school parking lot. The eighteen-year-old senior has been expelled and faces up to a fifteen-year prison sentence if convicted.

The girls in both cities reportedly consented to sex. The difference was their ages. Sex with a person under sixteen is a felony in Michigan. Consent is irrelevant. Even deception by the minor party is not a defense, criminal attorneys say.

Yet sexual activity is widespread among teenagers, including a significant minority who have sex before the age of consent. A 1995 national survey found that roughly one-quarter of all teens are sexually active before age sixteen.

So who gets charged, and why?

First, while consenting couples under age sixteen could technically be prosecuted, "as a practical matter it doesn't happen," says Washtenaw County prosecutor Brian Mackie. "There is no hard-and-fast formula for human behavior, and that carries over into the prosecution of cases, including what we commonly call statutory rape. It's an area of law where everything has to be looked at on a case-by-case basis.'

Mackie says his attorneys, in determining whom to charge, look not only at age but also at maturity levels, the nature of the relationship, signs of exploitation, and other considerations that indicate an imbalance of power between parties. "Is a fourteen-year-old really consenting to this, or is she simply being taken advantage of by someone who is older?" he asks.

At least three state laws cover sex with

- · Sexual penetration with a person at least age thirteen but less than sixteen is third-degree criminal sexual conduct punishable by up to fifteen years in
- · Sexual contact with a person less than thirteen years of age is second-degree criminal sexual conduct punishable by up to fifteen years in prison.
- · Sexual contact, but not penetration, with someone at least thirteen but under sixteen is fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct if one of the persons is five years older or more.

Nine statutory rape warrants for third-

degree criminal sexual conduct were issued by the county in 1999. But Mackie cautions that some of those cases could also have been considered outright rapes covered by other laws. More than half of the average 120 criminal sexual conduct cases handled yearly involve victims under sixteen, he says.

'Sometimes it's easier to prove the age and that there was sex rather than having to prove there was force or coercion," Mackie explains. Sergeant Ceo estimates that fewer than half a dozen warrants are issued in the city each year based on age alone.

tatutory rape as a concept dates back to the 4,000-year-old Code of Hammurabi. The code dictated a man was to be 'seized and slain" if he ravished a betrothed virgin. In 1275 A.D. the first English statutory rape law made it a crime to have sex with "any maiden" under twelve years old "neither by her own consent or without."

In Michigan the age of consent climbed from ten when the state entered the Union in 1837 to its current sixteen in 1897. Contemporary law is gender neutral, but the overwhelming number of cases brought involve female minors.

Last year Republican state senator Joanne Emmons of Big Rapids introduced a bill that would have increased the age of consent to eighteen. It was defeated, but Emmons says she plans to reintroduce a modified version next session. The new proposal, she says, will be keyed to age disparity, making it a crime to have sex with consenting sixteen- and seventeenyear-olds when the other party is five years older or more.

"We're trying to get at older predators that prey on young girls who are flattered," Emmons explains.

Bridget McCormack, who heads the criminal law clinic at the U-M Law School, says that females married young years ago because of lower life expectancy as adults. "Then there was statutory rape law reform in the late nineteenth century," McCormack says. "They were concerned about the spread of disease and protecting girls from abuse, as well as social purity and moral reform."

Today feminists are split on the notion of a consenting teenager as a victim. "On the one hand, protecting young girls from predatory men is something some schools of feminism are concerned about," says McCormack. "On the other hand, legislating that young girls don't have autonomy in sex decisions is something that bothers others."

Susan McGee, director of SAFE House and a member of the mayor's task force on safety for women, says that kind of debate misreads the intent of the law. Though McGee hasn't seen the text of Emmons's proposed law, she says that in principle she favors focusing the law on cases where there's a disparity in age.

"It's a question of exploitation and power," McGee says. "We have a right to protect our children. And I don't care if they're sexually active or know about birth control. People are mixing sex, and making choices about sex, with being exploited or raped-and they are two different





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SCHOOLS SPOTLIGHT

Dancing around the elephant

After two years of debate, there's still no long-term solution to high school overcrowding. Some trustees are even suggesting that we just sit this one out.

s this year's school board vote approached, an Observer reporter asked all candidates where they stood on building a new comprehensive high school. Every one supported the idea. One candidate, though, pointed out that she wasn't likely to vote on the issue, since the new building would probably be approved even before the June election.

Instead, the proposal never even made it onto the board agenda. The discussion of high school overcrowding languished, and by the time trustees renewed it this fall, the focus had shifted to a faster, cheaper alternative that would recycle a middle school as a small high school. But in November the board summarily dismissed a pair of options that would have advanced that process. As a result—two years after the district formed the High School Futures Committee (HSFC) to study ways to reduce overcrowding at Pioneer and Hurona solution seems as far away as ever.

Fuzzy math

Last spring a decision seemed imminent. Building a third comprehensive high school was listed as "Option 1A" when HSFC submitted its preliminary long-term solutions report in June 1999, and as superintendent Rossi Ray-Taylor narrowed the options during the last school year, it continued to receive the most consideration. Through it all, it seemed the public preference.

But then, during a board meeting on May 24, Orma Lapp, deputy superintendent for building services, was asked how much it would cost to operate a third comprehensive high school. Her answer-"Approximately five million dollars"was met with head-shaking consternation. Just one week later, the plan that had taken more than eighteen months to begin to take shape was dying a swift death.

"I don't know why we're still discussing this," said trustee Brad Orr. "We can't afford it." And no one at the table seemed to disagree.

The HSFC final report, published in October 1999, had put the additional expense at just \$1 million a year. Lapp's far greater estimate effectively derailed the discussion of building a new comprehensive high school, and it has yet to get back on track.



Thundering herd: Pioneer students race to class through traffic-clogged hallways.

HSFC's preliminary report

estimated that operating a

third high school would cost

an extra \$3.3 million a year.

In its final report, the esti-

mate dropped to \$1 million.

Veterans of district politics have long understood how crucial a role financial estimates can play in policy decisions. That's why there's been hot debate behind the scenes over what a third comprehensive high school will cost-not to build it, which could be paid for by a bond issue, but to operate it, which must be paid for annually with a Proposal A-mandated budget that effectively shrinks each year.

Those inside the process say that estimating costs is difficult and confusing.

But for those on the outside it is even more so, and the manner in which the school district has presented the information hasn't helped.

In June 1999 the preliminary HSFC report on long-term

solutions to high school crowding listed Option 1A as "Construct New Comprehensive High School." The new school would have approximately 1,500 students, full athletic and performing arts facilities, and "flexibility for multiple programs." Under the heading "Finance," the report states, "Projections of operating costs vary depending on program and class size. If class sizes were to average twenty-eight in core courses and twenty-four in electives (as is the case now), the operating costs for a new comprehensive high school of 1,500 would be an additional \$3,328,956 over current comprehensive high school costs." Yet the final HSFC report, submitted just four months later, describes the financial impact as follows: "Annual operating costs for K-12 program (based on current program costs) are estimated at \$82.9 million. This is approximately \$1,000,000 more than operating costs would be for [the] current configuration."

Both reports were written by adminis-

trators on behalf of the HSFC volunteers. Partly because of that, and partly because of what some describe as a pervasive sense of futility emanating from the administrators, some committee members became soured on the process. Perhaps ten of the original fifty-five members dropped off the committee out of frustration or for other reasons before its work was completed. Even some who stayed say they didn't bother to read the final report, or if they did, they didn't notice the cost dis-

> crepancy, or understand it, or care enough to say or do much about it.

> According to Deb Small, the district's executive director for community relations, staff members working with HSFC were

told to provide figures in the final report that would be the "minimum allowable by contract." Indeed, a summary sheet generated at that time compares the assumptions behind the interim and final report estimates. Among other items excluded from the second, \$1 million projection: vocational and special education staff, teacher-consultants, speech and resource teachers, and five secretarial staff mem-

But why were staffers asked to exclude those costs, and by whom? "I don't know," says Small. Nancy Shiffler, a district evaluation specialist who participated in some of the number crunching, also says she doesn't remember why this costminimizing scenario was used.

By spring 2000, Small says, there was such "confusion" surrounding operating costs that members of "all the different camps"-research, curriculum, facilities, business services-were told to get in a room "and don't come out until you have

it." This group's estimates were presented at the fateful May 24 board meeting.

It turns out Lapp was merely rounding up when she told the board that it would cost "approximately five million dollars" to operate a third comprehensive high school. According to the spreadsheets prepared by the group, "The additional operating costs for the projected [peak enrollment of] 4,800 students at three versus two buildings range from \$2 to \$4.6 million depending on how tightly the district chooses to staff and schedule the buildings.'

According to Peter Solenberger, HSFC member and Institute for Social Research senior systems analyst, the range in the spreadsheet was arrived at by (1) plotting on a graph the relative operating costs of (a) the 2,400-student Pioneer High School and (b) the 2,000-student Huron High School (which costs more per student) and (2) extending a line through those two points to estimate what it would cost to operate a 1,600-student school.

But actual operating costs depend on numerous variables, especially teacherstudent ratios. The June 1999 figure was based on the average teacher-student ratios at Huron and Pioneer. The May 2000 figure, on the other hand, assumed that no staffing adjustments would be madewhich is at least in part a discretionary decision based on policy choices rather than one required by any physical or other kind

Nancy Shiffler, who also worked on the May 2000 model, agrees that it is mostly a theoretical construct based on estimated economies of scale. She notes, for example, that the farther the line is extended, the less meaningful its results become (the largest school would cost nothing, and the smallest school would cost an infinite amount).

Policy or paucity?

The Ann Arbor Public Schools labor under severe budgetary restrictions. Nearly all of their annual operating budget depends on a Proposal A formula that allows the use of up to \$8,735 per student enrolled this year. But that formula lags behind the rate of inflation. As a result, between now and 2010, the district's budget will shrink by 17 percent in constant dollars, from \$150 million to \$124 million.

Board members received that piece of bad news at the same May 24 meeting at which Orma Lapp provided the new high school operating cost estimate. Deb Small believes the confluence of these two distasteful budgetary items caused the board's abrupt shift toward a less expensive high school solution.

Indeed, the district disclosed in late October that it is on course this year to spend more than it earns by up to \$2 million, and perhaps by more than that in each of the two years that follow. This information, says trustee Orr, even more than any operational cost estimate, leads to his fear that building-and then trying to operate-a



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third comprehensive high school could bankrupt the district. "I foresee no time in the future," says Orr, "operating as we currently do [at approximately the same staffing and class sizes, with all athletic and other extracurricular programs in place], when we can afford a third comprehensive high school."

But Proposal A restrictions notwithstanding, the board this year approved an additional \$4.5 million to be phased in over three years and to be spent mostly at the elementary level to invest in reading and foreign language programs, to reopen Lakewood Elementary, and to lower class sizes. And as the district continues to grow disproportionately at the high school level, some say it's not only time, but beyond the time, to spend more on the high schools. Peter Solenberger believes that though high school enrollments may level off within the next few years, they will do so at 300 to 400 students more than are currently in grades 9 through 12-or approximately 1,200 students in excess of ideal capacity for the present buildings. The long-term expectations-ten and twenty and fifty years from now-are for decidedly more growth.

Though Solenberger's first preference might not be to build a third comprehensive high school (he believes it might be better to build more elementary schools and reconfigure the grades so that the high schools house only grades 10 through 12), he says, "we must build something, now." He believes that the district must add "a thousand to twelve hundred spaces" and that the primary need is to hire more teachers in order to lower teacher-student ratios throughout the district.

But all that depends on how much board members are willing to spend-and on what they think the district is able to spend. At this point, the only widely distributed comprehensive analysis that details what a particular kind of high school is likely to cost is the very first one: the June 1999 HSFC preliminary report that placed the cost of a third comprehensive high school—with 1,500 students, a 28:1 teacher-student ratio in core classes and 24:1 in electives, among other well-defined attributes-at \$3,328,956. Since that time no compelling case has been made that the district cannot afford that amount-nor has any other analysis described at what rate the district would be able to afford to run a certain kind of high school, and at what rate it would not be able to do so.

Back to the High School Futures?

But rather than pursue those kinds of detailed cost issues, the board asked administrators in late September to provide data concerning a different type of remedy. Option 5, as it was called in the HSFC June 1999 preliminary report, called for converting a middle school into a small (750–1,000 students) magnet high school. Brad Orr, for one, believed conversion was worth exploring because it would cost

less than building a new high school (\$35 to \$55 million rather than up to \$90 million) and could be implemented much more quickly—perhaps within two years, rather than the five or even nine years it might take to build a school from scratch.

Yet just six weeks later, when the two possible middle school scenarios were sketched out at the November 8 board meeting, it became clear that not only would Option 5 require drastic reconfiguration of middle school attendance areas, but it might also require major elementary school changes as well. The last elementary redistricting, in 1998, was comparatively minor, with no schools closed and few major boundary shifts, yet parents reacted so angrily at that time that every board member who supported the changes either stepped down voluntarily or was defeated for reelection. Most trustees seemed to lose interest in Option 5 even before the November 8 presentation describing it had concluded.

Trustee Ellen Daniel, who never favored this option, referred to it in early October as "redistricting to the tenth power." She said she hoped that after her fellow trustees had a chance to recognize its pitfalls, they would turn back to serious consideration of building a new comprehensive high school. But gathered around the table late into the evening on November 8, most merely lamented the board's continuing standstill. Trustee Henry Mc-Queen suggested that the board might enlist the services of an outside facilitator, to teach it how to make a decision. Others questioned yet again whether the high schools were truly overcrowded and, if so, whether such conditions were demonstrably detrimental to the students there. And some said the best course of action might be to take no action at all.

Former deputy and interim superintendent David Flowers used to say that even if "the high school fairy" gave Ann Arbor a new building, the district couldn't afford to operate it. And since May that's been the prevailing assumption on the board. But current superintendent Rossi Ray-Taylor isn't so sure.

"We haven't really fleshed out those numbers," she told trustees at the November 8 meeting, "and certainly not in relationship to all aspects of the budget." Vowing that the district will not "operate on a deficit," Ray-Taylor promised to deliver a new budget within two months that will include one final assessment of high school costs. "Then, if a third high school is off the table [for budgetary reasons], we'll take it off," she pledged. "But I don't think we've done justice to [it] yet."

Board president Bob Rasmussen floated the idea of scheduling additional high school shifts—a practice Pioneer employed in the 1960s, while Huron was being built—and Ray-Taylor allowed that this move may be acceptable, but only as a temporary solution. Ultimately, she said, the district has got to face the need to build more permanent space at the high school level: "We can't just keep dancing around the elephant in the middle of the room."

—Randy H. Milgrom and John Hilton

ANN ARBORITES

Al Haber

The legendary 1960s radical will take his peace table to Israel this spring

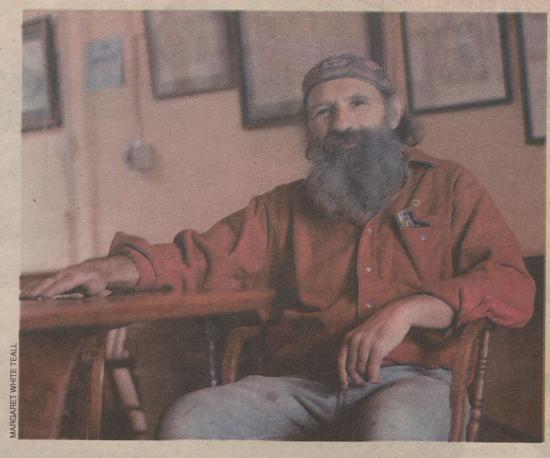
n a basement on Ashley Street, woodworker Al Haber proudly displays his peace table. It's round, made of cherry wood, and just large enough to seat fivesix in a pinch. Why is this table, which Haber hopes to fly to Israel in the spring (recent events notwithstanding), so small? "Peace is a family affair," explains the sixty-four-year-old Haber, who in the 1960s achieved a footnote in history as a founder of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS). "It has to come down to being able to look at one another and talk."

Haber envisions the table as the centerpiece of the Megiddo Peace Project, a gathering planned for Galilee next April. On their website (www.umich.edu/ ~megiddo/), he and his wife, Odile Hugonot Haber, are requesting "visions of peace . . . in all media, from all war and conflict zones in the world. . . . Musicians. poets, and performers invited to address calls for peace to the masters of war." Haber doesn't yet know how many will actually show up, but he reports that lots of people have been hitting the website. Musicians from Indonesia, Malaysia, Yugoslavia, and, yes, Ann Arbor have already offered their services.

Haber is used to seeing tolerant smiles and raised eyebrows when he talks up his quixotic project. It's a stretch, he acknowledges, to believe that an international gathering of peaceniks can resolve the deeply rooted Arab-Israeli conflict. But the "father of the SDS"-as some activist pals dub him-is inspired by his memories of the modest beginnings of the 1960s student antiwar movement. "I had the foresight to say we need a meeting in the spring of 1960 [to form SDS]," he points out. Now, he believes, "we need a meeting [for peace in the Mideast] in the spring of the new millennium!'

ith his flowered kippah (the skullcap worn by observant Jews, which he is, sort of), and the lower half of his face muffled by beard, Haber presents a sagelike appearance, despite his jeans and grimy, work-lined hands. He's an eloquent talker, whose voice has the softness of a dream.

Haber grew up in Ann Arbor, the younger of two sons of economists Bill and Fanny Haber. Both his parents were spirited New Deal Democrats: Bill Haber helped draft the Social Security Act. Later he became a professor at the U-M, and the family settled in Barton Hills. In 1948 they spent a year in Germany, where Bill



Haber was advisor on Jewish affairs to the commander of the U.S. forces in Germany and Austria. "Seeing the destruction" of war firsthand was a turning point for their twelve-vear-old son.

The family returned to Ann Arbor. where Bill Haber eventually became dean of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. Al attended the U-M for eleven years, eventually receiving a degree in medieval history in 1965. But his real major was activism. He was both the president of SDS and the group's first employee, traveling to colleges around the country to organize chapters. "Al was a very magnetic presence," historian and former activist Todd Gitlin once told a reporter. "What he said resonated."

By 1963 another U-M grad, Tom Hayden, now a California state senator (and former husband of actress Jane Fonda), had replaced Haber as SDS leader. As the Vietnam War escalated, so did the fame of SDS, with members organizing protests across the country. Soon the FBI, taking SDS as seriously as SDS took itself, began infiltrating meetings. But SDS was imploding, torn between traditional political activists and advocates of violent revolution. In 1969 Haber, disillusioned, walked out of a turbulent SDS meeting in Oakland, California, and never went back.

Immediately afterward he had a career epiphany. He walked into a furniture store, smelled the wood, and remembered a shop class he'd enjoyed at Ann Arbor's University High. In three days he made the decision to ditch his career as a writer and organizer and become a woodworker. He got some help from a friendly cabinetmaker but essentially trained himself in his new career. Less than a year after he left SDS, the organization cracked apart, with the violent Weathermen faction going underground to launch a string of bomb attacks that lasted for years.

Haber has no regrets about his own involvement in SDS but says that "we were naive. We didn't anticipate the extent of the government's action to destroy our organization. We believed in democracy a lot more than it existed."

He doesn't credit SDS with ending the Vietnam War: "The Vietnamese ended the war." But, he says, "there was a repression in the culture that needed to break out. . . . Mexicans, blacks, gays, all these groups were, one way or another, marginalized . . out of white Protestant America. . . . They have in some way got their voice."

l and Odile moved to Ann Arbor from Berkeley in 1993. His father had died, and they wanted to be closer to Al's elderly mother. (Fanny Haber died two years ago.) Al is a self-employed woodworker, and Odile works part time as an intensive care nurse in Detroit, but activism is their true vocation. The couple spend a lot of time at conferences or marches (an international women's conference in China in 1995, the demonstrations in Seattle against the World Trade Organization last year) or in Berkeley, visiting the center for local activism called the Long Hall that Al started. And, of course, they go to Israel.

Haber has been obsessed with both the Megiddo Peace Project and his peace table for more than a decade. He was inspired to make the table after he threw I Ching, the Chinese ritual of dropping six sticks or coins and interpreting the patterns they form. Afterward, Haber cut a circle (symbolizing heaven) from a square of wood

(symbolizing earth). A friend informed Haber that what he had made was a peace table-and suggested that he hold a conference at Megiddo, a place grimly prophesied in the Bible to be the site of the apocalypse, or the end of the world. Haber has already "tried out" the table at a peace conference in the Hague a year ago. The shipping alone cost \$1,500, but it was worth it, he says happily, when three Nobel Peace Prize winners "sat around it and talked peace.'

s we sit in the Habers' modest Old West Side home, the phone rings. Answering it, Odile passes on a request to change the date for an Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice meeting

on nuclear disarmament; Al agrees. Odile possesses classically Gallic dark eyes and hair, a thick accent, and an intense way of talking that contrasts with Al's quietness. They have been married since 1986, in a second marriage for both. Odile has a grown daughter who's a writer in Los Angeles.

In their commitment to social action, Al emphasizes, he and Odile are a team. Odile, a veteran of the 1968 student demonstrations in Paris, notes that they've been disappointed not to find a stronger political community in Ann Arbor. "Sometimes you feel isolated," she says. "In Berkeley there were all kinds of activists!"

Al complains that in his absence the U-M became a "corporate university." When he tried to meet with president Lee Bollinger to discuss "the value of a peace and conflict studies program at the university," he says, all he got was a curt E-mail message saying that the president was busy. However, "as a real historical artifact," as he puts it, he often speaks to U-M history and American studies classes. Sometimes, to his disappointment, they seem bored.

The Habers have sunk all their savings into Megiddo. Al admits that he grows weary of living in near poverty. Still, the stubborn optimism that once fueled a major student movement refuses to die. For example, there's a very real possibility that the Israeli government will deny permission to meet at Megiddo, which is a historic site. Haber is considering other nearby locales. "The Palestinian towns nearby are very friendly to this," he insists. And if that doesn't work out, there's another place he has his eye on-"a soccer field at

-Eve Silberman

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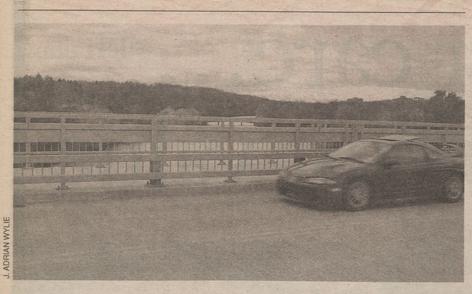
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AROUND TOWN



A view from the bridge

Safety and aesthetics clash on Huron Parkway

A friend writes:

he river railings make me weep. I'm talking about the ones on Huron Parkway's renovated bridge. The Huron River provides the loveliest views for motorists in Ann Arbor, as those of us who have been caught in traffic jams there during its lengthy reconstruction can attest. But the new view-obscuring railings, like a severe blow to the head, will make us forget this fact soon.

When construction began to narrow the bridge, creating constant bottlenecks, the view was the only thing that made my long waits bearable. Then, when the old railings were gone with nothing replacing them, the views were even more spectacular—the vistas over Geddes Pond are truly magnificent. But in a cruel turn of fate, those views have now been obscured by a new kind of railing: taller, more complicated, and with a horizontal element that is right in your line of vision if you're a driver, a passenger, or even-if you walk across the bridge and you aren't very tall-a pedestrian.

Ann Arbor, and southeastern lower Michigan generally, is not known for scenic beauty. That defect makes the loss more acute-or maybe occasioned it? In Vermont or California, I wondered, would the city fathers (or mothers) countenance anything as aesthetically offensive as those railings?

When the ugly new rails went up on the west side of the bridge, some friends suggested that maybe they were necessary because the view might be "distracting." Yes, and the Mona Lisa really drives folks wild, too. Seriously, the Huron River is not the Wimbledon finals. It changes less, second by second, than the traffic in the opposing lanes, and for sure we are not protected from seeing that. In all the years with the old railings (which did not obscure the view), did anyone ever swerve into an accident, or even a near accident, at the sight of a canoe, or a goose, or even the beauty of the autumn leaves? I doubt it.

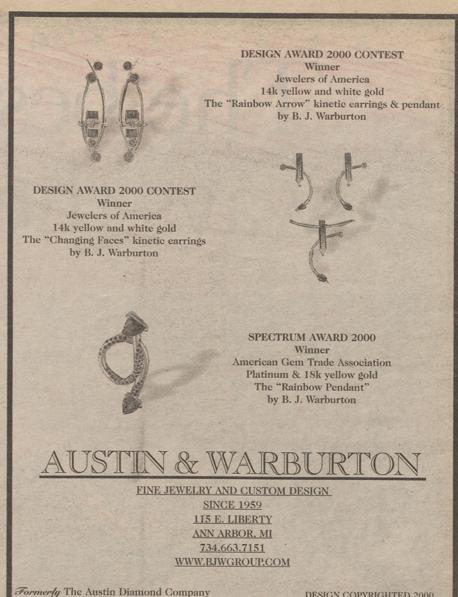
So I called City Hall. And somebody from City Hall called me back that very day, patiently and intelligently explained the problem, and told me many other interesting things about related problems,

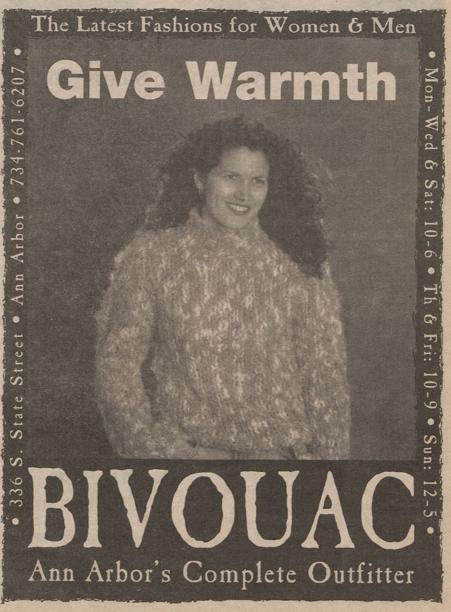
hoosing bridge rails, it turns out, is complicated. They have to be strong enough to withstand the impact of a vehicle, which may be somewhat bigger than a passenger car, and which may be traveling somewhat faster than the speed limit. They have to be high enough so that normal pedestrians cannot flip over them by accident, and far enough apart that a child's head can't get stuck between them, and so on and on. My head was soon so full of facts that I had to close my eyes and picture a peaceful scene-like the banks of the Huron in October, as viewed from the Huron Parkway bridge during construction.

And here's the real rub: the ultimate problem is those dratted bicyclists, such as my husband, my daughter, my friend Mary, and more other people than even I care to offend. So what can I do?

It turns out that that vile horizontal element, the thing in the way of everyone's vision, whether we are driving or just backseat driving, whether we're in a van or a coupe, is a "rub rail." It is there so that handlebars on any likely bike-from the little kid's to the big super-mountain-"rubs" if the rider gets too close to the rail, instead of catching the rider between uprights, with attendant horrible conse-

And so, each day, as I drive by, the new railings make me weep, and the split-second view of the river as I round the spiral ramp to Geddes Avenue lifts my spirits, delights my eyes, and makes me long, against all self-interest, for the construction crews to tear it all up again, if only they'll give us back our view.





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Lane Hall

From the YMCA to women's studies

f the walls of Lane Hall could talk, they might recall discussions on ethical, religious, and international topics, and distinguished visitors such as Bertrand Russell, Reinhold Niebuhr, and the Dalai Lama. The elegantly understated Georgian Colonial Revival building on the southwest corner of State and Washington has been an intellectual center for student discussions since it was built. From 1917 to 1956 all varieties of religious topics were examined; from 1964 to 1997 it changed to an international focus. In October, after a major expansion and renovation, it was rededicated as the new home for women's studies at the U-M.

Lane Hall was built in 1916-1917 by the U-M YMCA. Within a few years it came under the control of the university's Student Christian Association, which included the campus branches of both the YMCA and the YWCA. In addition to organizing traditional religious activities, SCA published a student handbook, ran a rooming service, and helped students get jobs.

Funded in part by a \$60,000 gift from John D. Rockefeller, Lane Hall was named after Victor H. Lane, a law professor and former judge who was active in SCA. When it opened in 1917, students could read books on religion in the library, listen to music in the music room, meet with student pastors in individual offices, or attend functions, either in the 450-seat auditorium upstairs or the social room in the basement.

SCA cooperated with area churches and also provided meeting places for groups that didn't have a home church, such as Chinese Christians and Baha'is. But Lane Hall is most remembered for its own nondenominational programs, which were open to all students on campus. Some, like Bible study, had an obvious religious connection, but the programs also included the Fresh Air Camp (which enlisted U-M students to serve as big brothers to neglected boys), extensive services for foreign students, and eating clubs.

Lane Hall became one of the most intellectually stimulating places on campus. "While the university was, much more than now, organized in tightly bounded disciplines and departments, our program was working with the connections between them, and particularly the ethical implications of those interconnections,' recalls C. Grey Austin, who was assistant coordinator of religious affairs in the 1950s. "Religion was similarly organized in clearly defined institutions, and we were working, again, with that fascinating area in which they touch one another."

With the coming of the Great Depres-

sion, many students struggled financially. In 1932, looking for a way to save money, a local activist named Sher Quraishi (later an advocate for postpartition Pakistan) organized the Wolverine Eating Club in the basement of Lane Hall. The club's cook, Anna Panzner, recalled in a 1983 interview that they fed about 250 people three meals a day. She was assisted with the

cooking by John Ragland, who later became the only black lawyer in town. About forty students helped with the prep and cleanup in exchange for free meals, while the rest paid \$2.50 a week.

Lane Hall itself had trouble keeping going during the depression, often limping along without adequate staffing. Finally, in 1936, SCA gave Lane Hall to the university. The group didn't stipulate the use of the building but said they hoped it might "serve the purpose for which it was originally intended, that is, a center of religious study and activities for all students in the university." The university agreed and, while changing the name to Student Religious Association, kept and expanded the SCA programming.

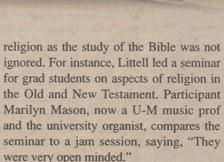
he official head of Lane Hall would be a minister hired by the university, but the work was done by Edna Alber," recalls Jerry Rees, who worked there in the 1950s.

"Alber ran Lane Hall like a drill sergeant," agrees Lew Towler, who was active in Lane Hall activities. "You'd try to stay on her good side."

The first university-hired director of Lane Hall was Kenneth Morgan. The high point of his tenure was a series of lectures on "The Existence and Nature of God" given by Bertrand Russell, Fulton Sheen, and Reinhold Niebuhr.

Morgan left during World War II and was replaced by Frank Littell. "He was a dynamic man who you either liked or didn't," recalls Jo Glass, who was active at Lane Hall after the war. "He made changes and left." After Littell, DeWitt C. Baldwin, who had been Lane Hall's assistant director, took over. Called "Uncle Cy" by many, he was an idealistic former missionary who also led the Lisle Fellowship, a summer program to encourage interna-

Although social action was important,



Other Lane Hall activities were just plain fun. Jerry Rees enjoyed folk dancing on Tuesday evenings in the basement social hall. Jo Glass has happy memories of the Friday afternoon teas held in the library. "You'd go to religious teas and meet people you met on Sunday, or go to international teas and meet people from other countries," she says, "but you'd go to Lane Hall and meet a mixture of everybody-all kinds of people wandered in."

Doris Reed Ramon was head of international activities at Lane Hall. She remembers that in addition to providing room for international students to meet, the building had a Muslim prayer room and space for Indian students to cook meals together. After World War II, with the campus full of returning servicemen struggling to make it on the GI Bill, a new eating co-op was organized, called the Barnaby Club. Member Russell Fuller, later pastor of Memorial Christian Church, recalls that the group hired a cook but did all the other work themselves, coming early to peel potatoes or set the table, or staying afterward to clean up.

he Lane Hall programming came to an end in 1956, when the religious office was moved to the Student Activities Building. The niche that Lane Hall held had gradually eroded as more churches established campus centers and the university founded an academic program in religious studies. Also, according to Grey Austin, there were more questions about the role of religion in a secular school. "The growing consensus was that the study of religions was okay but that experience

with religion was better left to the religious organizations that ringed the campus."

In the 1960s, centers for area studies began moving into Lane Hall-Japanese studies, Chinese studies, Middle and North African studies, and South Asian and Southeast Asian studies, all of which were rising in importance during the Cold War. Many townsfolk, as well as students, remember attending stimulating brownbag lunches on various international topics, as well as enjoying the Japanese pool garden in the lobby. During this time visitors ranged from president Gerald Ford and governor James Blanchard (who was delighted with the help the center gave him in developing trade with China) to foreign leaders such as the Dalai Lama and Bashir Gemayel, who became president of Lebanon, and famous writers such as Joseph Brodsky and Czeslaw Milosz.

One of the people who passed through Lane Hall during this period was Hugo Lane, great-grandson of Victor Lane. In response to an E-mail query, Lane recalled that he had an office in Lane Hall when he worked as a graduate assistant for the East European Survey, a project of the Center for Russian and East European Studies. "Needless to say, I took great pleasure in that coincidence. . . . On those occasions when my parents visited Ann Arbor, a stop at the hall was obligatory.'

The centers for area studies eventually joined the U-M International Center in the new School of Social Work building across the Diag. After they left, Lane Hall became a temporary headquarters for the School of Natural Resources and Environment while its building was renovated. Then Lane Hall was vacated for its own extensive addition and renovation.

Today, the new and improved Lane Hall is home to the U-M's Women's Studies Program and the Institute for Research on Women and Gender. "It's wonderful space to the occupants, very affirming," says institute director Abby Stewart. "It feels good to be here." -Grace Shackman



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LAND OF A THOUSAND FLAVORS

Zing news nibbles

New York Times & Zingerman's Breads?

Zingerman's Times reporters have uncovered a juicy secret: the New York Times has a crush on Zingerman's Mail Order breads. According to the November 1, 2000 issue, Zingerman's Pecan Raisin, Chocolate Cherry, Parmesan Pepper and Sourcream Coffeecake are most definitely a mail order treasure. For more information, call Zingerman's Mail Order at 888.636.8162, or log onto www.zingermans.com.

Potato Latkes Spotted at Ann Arbor Deli

Recently named to USA Today's "10 Great Places to Order a Genuine Jewish Nosh" Zingerman's Delicatessen is reputedly stocking up on latkes (potato pancakes) in preparation for this year's Hannukah celebrations. "They're a hit at my Hannukah party every year," said David Taitel. Also available-homemade applesauce and fresh sour cream. Call the Deli at 734.663.DELI to order yours today.

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The holiday season is upon us, and all around, you can hear the same question: "What am I going to do for holiday gifts this year?"

To allay any gift-finding anxiety, the Zingerman's Times staff has scoured the stores and talked to harried holiday customers to figure out what it is they really want. One exasperated holiday hunter was overheard saying: "If I give one more mug, my family is never going to invite me back for the holidays!" Pretty soon, our reporters could hear cries of "I want something different, something unique!"

With ears still ringing, our reporters set out to find that special gift that lets your loved ones know you care. Surprisingly, our search didn't take long-and the answer was clear: Zingerman's

Mail Order. Vogue food writer Jeffrey Steingarten called Zingerman's "...the best food store (and catalog) in the U.S." Food author Carol Field said that "...one of the most thrilling things I can imagine is a box of breads from Zingerman's.

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Phoning Zingerman's Mail Order guarantees a safe landing with delicious gifts-galore!

zingerman's stollen is nothing short

of sweet bliss for some

The Zingerman's Times has

been inundated with phone

calls asking if Zingerman's

Bakehouse stollen has been

seen around town. This frenzy

got our investigators curious:

what was this stollen, and

why were so many waiting

with baited breath? Going

wild tuscan fennel pollen sprinkles flavorful magic throughout deli

Hard to find even in Italy, authentic wild Italian fennel pollen has unexpectedly appeared at Zingerman's just in time for the holidays. An outstandingly delicious specialty of Tuscany (mentioned in Frances Mayes' best seller Under the Tuscan Sun), wild fennel pollen is a favorite of the region's chefs and food con- The Fennel Fairy strikes at the Deli. noisseurs. In Ann Arbor, cooks in



the know have been spotted sprinkling it onto pork chops, fresh fish and all sorts of other wonderful foods. Zingerman's Mail Order partner Mo Frechette was reluctant to reveal quantities, but our Zingerman's Times reporters were able to ascertain that supplies are very, very limited.

For further information on this wild phenomenon, pick up a copy of Zingerman's News, or link up with them at www.zingermans.com.

happy holidays from zingerman's!

Deli's open 'til 5PM Bakehouse 'til 6PM Zingerman's will be closed. Dec. 25: Deli's open 'til 5PM Dec. 31:

Bakehouse 'til 6PM Jan. 1: Happy New Year!

right to the source, we asked the pastry crew at Zingerman's Bakehouse what made their stollen so special. Their response was overwhelming! First, they wanted us to know that their stollen had become one of the all-time best treats from the Bakehouse, and that it was made with lots of sweet butter, Bacardi rum, lemons, oranges, Michigan dried cherries, citron, currants, almonds, sultanas, real vanilla and more. According to the Bakehouse, stollen is a traditional German holiday

cake. One unknown fan

couldn't stop raving about it:

"It's absolutely fantastic! The Bakehouse says it'll keep for months, but I've never been able to keep one long enough to find out!"

The best news of all? Stollen season officially opens on December 1st. Order soon though-these tempting treats apparently don't last long! Available at Zingerman's Bakehouse and at the Delicatessen. Or, if you have a faraway friend with a craving, call Zingerman's Mail Order at 888.636.8162.



Greta Frankenstollen basks in stollen's

you really can taste the difference!

Gay in ann arbor a higgsphical history.

Ann Arbor has been a leader in gay rights since the late 1960s, adopting pioneering antidiscrimination laws and domestic partner benefits even in the face of emotionally charged opposition. Though discrimination hasn't been eliminated, the city today offers its gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender residents relative safety and

It wasn't always so. As late as the 1960s the polegal protection. lice and U-M administrators collaborated to trap suspected homosexuals, and well into the 1980s gays were routinely denied custody of their children. Here ten Ann Arborites describe the long, winding road from persecution to acceptance.

"I'm a complete civil lihertarian. I don't believe in any speech codes, don't care who calls me a faggot or a fairy. . . . It's love, you know, it's romantic. That's what got me in trouble. I can't be ashamed for being in -Stan

An Ann Arbor resident of fifty years, "Stan" wanted to tell his story but felt that he needed to respect his partner's desire for privacy. Both men remember a time when merely to be suspected of being gay was enough to put a career in jeopardy.

Stan, seventy-eight, says he has never been attracted to women and has known his entire life that he is a homosexual. As a result, he says, officials at his East Coast university took away his undergraduate scholarship and blackballed him from teaching. He came to Ann Arbor on a fellowship in 1952. At the time, he says, local gay society was clandestine but rich with culture and community.

Stan remembers Ann Arbor in the 1950s as a sleepy little town. For homosexuals, though, there was a constant danger of surveillance, harassment, and persecution by the police, who would "forward their reports to the university," where Stan worked. If someone was observed participating in behavior that raised suspicions of homosexuality, he says, "an individual's career would be impeded and kept from advancing. But usually, if you got into trouble, you were just fired."

One of the unlucky ones, Stan says, was Bernard Wilson, a cataloger who worked in the U-M's rare music collection in the late 1950s. "He was victimized by a gang of boys he'd been friendly with," Stan recalls. "They had come over and demanded money, robbed him, and attacked him physically. Yet it was he who was arrested when he called the police, for being a homosexual. He had to leave [the university]. The [library] director was sympathetic and got him a job in Chicago.'

Stan says the Ann Arbor police took the lead in pursuing homosexuals. "They were really after gay people-they liked the whole business." But the university cooperated, if only to protect itself from embarrassment. "They were trying to get rid of me," he recalls. "They were sure that something was going to happen."

In summer 1958 Stan returned from a vacation in Europe to the news that one of his straight roommates had been arrested for rape and that police had raided their apartment, allegedly looking for illegal drugs. Stan says the charges were ridiculous—no drugs were found, and his roommate was acquitted. He thinks the entire episode was staged by police fishing for evidence that could be used to reveal his homosexuality and prosecute him.

Another time, a luncheon with friends at Stan's apartment was interrupted by a visit from the U-M dean of students and a police officer. They claimed someone had reported that they were keeping a woman against her will as a concubine. "That was the craziest thing ever," Stan recalls telling them. "There's no woman living here. Look in all the closets. There's no evidence for any woman living here." The search produced nothing, and the authorities left, disgruntled.

Stan managed the Cinema Guild, which had weekly screenings of films that were, in his words, "pretty far out." In 1967 when the board voted to show Flaming Creatures, a film in which nude gay men discuss their sexuality, the group was advised that there was likely to be trouble. Sure enough, fifteen minutes into the film police entered the theater, stopped the showing, and arrested the assistant manager and three board members.

Stan escaped prosecution only because he hadn't seen the film. "They kept trying to get the person who had shown the film to say I had given it to them, but I hadn't. I was accused of bringing subversion and perversion into Ann Arbor by the papers," he recalls, smiling. "A bunch of naked men talking about sex was enough to get a film raided." As Stan recalls it, those arrested were all minors; they pleaded guilty to showing an obscene movie, but "no one was sentenced. I was glad I didn't have to keep going to court on it myself."

Stan still works at the university but believes the accusations and harassment over the years hurt his chances for advancement. "They were trying to get rid of me. There were no salary increases. Once my boss had a reference, saying to me, 'I'm recommending you for a promotion again but don't hope for it-there are too many stories up in the director's office for you."

Newspaper reports confirm the aggressive antihomosexual atmosphere that prevailed in Ann Arbor and nationally. In 1962 male students and staff members were arrested in rest rooms on the U-M campus and charged with soliciting a police officer. "Especially in a university community where there are a lot of young men, most of whom are unmarried, the homosexuals have to be stopped," then prosecutor Bill Ager told the Michigan Daily.

But eventually, Stan says, the Ann Arbor police found they had bigger worries than homosexuals. 'Stonewall was in 1969, and by 1971 it was going on here. They didn't bother much after that. When political troubles got worse and worse for the city and university, the whole campus disrupted. It seemed as if I wasn't that much trouble. They found reality to bother them instead of illusion. They had real troubles, not imaginary troubles."



Maybe we thought we had so many young people that we were immortal. -Jim Toy

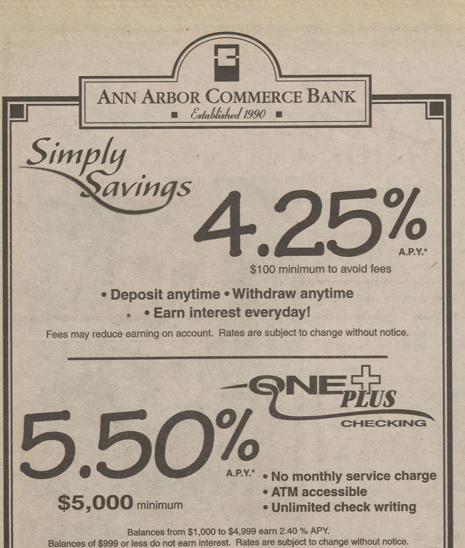
The Stonewall riots in New York City after Judy Garland's funeral in June 1969 are widely recognized as the catalyst that transformed America's gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender subculture into an increasingly organized and visible coalition. The following year a group of activists who had been attending meetings of the Detroit Gay Liberation Front formed a GLF chapter in Ann Arbor.

That year one of the founders, Jim Toy, publicly came out at a rally against the Vietnam War. Toy recalls that he wasn't afraid of being a highly visible gay man. "Maybe we thought we had so many young people that we were immortal," Toy says. "I was far more afraid about going to Detroit."

It's hard to imagine Toy being insecure or afraid. He comes across as soft spoken and humble but also passionate and quick to share a laugh. His thirty years of activism-organizing, educating, protesting, facilitating, consulting, offering support, and training volunteers-culminated this year in a Lifetime Achievement Award from Michigan's lesbian and gay community.

The GLF soon received formal recognition by the Student Government Council, and membership quickly grew to over 100 students. The group's goals were to battle antigay discrimination and stereotypes, offer support and counseling for local gays, and "depathologize" homosexuality, which at the time was still regarded as a mental illness by the American Psychiatric

In 1973, during Gay Pride Week, Toy and other



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Gay in Ann Arbor continued

members of GLF learned that hundreds of psychiatrists would be attending a panel on homosexuality at a U-M Medical School conference. The sponsors refused to allow GLF to address the group, so two members slipped into the hall with borrowed badges. They interrupted the speaker, telling her she was unqualified to lecture on gay issues because she wasn't gay.

At that point, Toy recalls, the lights and sound were cut-but about a quarter of the participants left the meeting to attend an alternative panel held by Toy and GLF. That December the APA deleted homosexuality from its compendium of psychiatric disorders and adopted a position paper calling on psychiatrists to advocate for full civil rights for gays and lesbians.

By then Toy himself was a U-M employee. In September 1971 he and Cynthia Gair, a member of the Radical Lesbians, were appointed as part-time coordinators of what is now known as the Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Affairs (LGBTA). It was the nation's first university office to offer support services to homosexual students.

In 1972, largely because of the work of GLF, the city of Ann Arbor became one of the first in the nation to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. But it took almost twenty years, until 1991, for the city to adopt a domestic partnership ordinance that offered health benefits to the same-sex domestic partners of city employees. The U-M was even slower to act: the regents did not amend their nondiscrimination bylaw to include sexual orientation until 1993 and began offering domestic partner benefits only in 1994.

Toy stepped down from his position at the LGBTA office in 1994. (He remains a consultant to the Office of Equity and Diversity Services.) One of his latest projects reached fruition last year, when city council voted to add gender identity to the city code as a category protected from discrimination.

"I have loved my life in every way despite the hardships. I have full identity. If I hadn't come out, if I hadn't found my true identity, I might not have survived physic cally and mentally. If you have authenticity in your life, you can celebrate. If you're faking it, it's much harder to endure." -Nan

Until her retirement, Nan was an Oakland Community College professor and a psychologist in private practice. Now, she says, she's "hopping around, having a very good time." She spends her summers in Ann Arbor and her winters in the South.

Nan, sixty-three, left her husband and two daughters and moved to Ann Arbor in

1971. She was in her early thirties and having a "personal crisis of my own about coming out.

"It was a very hard decision to think about," Nan recalls, "leaving a traditional family . . . leaving the status of a heterosexual marriage. I was moving into being something of a pariah. My family was very, very distressed. They thought I was on drugs. My mother actually said to me, 'You can have your girlfriends on the side-you don't have to leave your family." But maintaining heterosexual appearances 'would have felt like a cop-out for me.' Nan's parents were labor organizers and supported her once they came to understand that her struggle as a lesbian was a civil rights issue and a human rights issue.

Nan's personal crisis coincided with the gay liberation movement. "Everyone was in a militant frame of mind," she says. "There was a lot of demonstrating in interest of educating people. Gay liberation, for the most part, was male dominated, which was very common for organizations, even civil rights organizations. The men were running everything, and we were doing the typing.

"Women in gay liberation were very pissed about their feminist aspect not being understood or seen. . . . There was a feeling in gay lib at the time, a feeling in a lot of political organizations at the time, that we weren't being seen or heard. Out of that feeling grew a momentum-anger. We decided to split and form our own organization, not the gay auxiliary ladies. We wanted to be recognized for our own

militancy." Nan remembers the first Radical Lesbians meeting as being "almost like an AA meeting. I said, 'My name is Nan, and I'm a lesbian.' Here I was, a married woman . . . hanging out in Ann Arbor with this disrespectable group." Some members were professors; many were young students, dependent on their families emotionally, physically, and financially. And some, like Nan, were mothers. "We were frightened we would lose the custody of our children," she recalls,

"lose the love and respect of our fami-

lies-which we did."

The Radical Lesbians also worked to raise consciousness about differences within their own community. "We had a little group we called GAWK, Gay Awareness Women's Kollective, and the idea was that we would be gawked at. We talked about lack of acceptance-like in a lot of subcommunities there are discriminations within the group, like light- and dark-skin blacks. Butch women would not be accepted by what later became lipstick lesbians; dykes felt gawked at, just like transgender folks. . . . We did a lot of transgenderism. Even at that point, men were going through sex change.'

Nan lived in a house with three other women, hoping she might be able to conceal her lesbian life and obtain custody of her two daughters. She had an agreement with her husband that her sexuality wouldn't be brought up in the divorce, but he went ahead and told the Friend of the Court that she was a lesbian. At the time homosexuals were presumed to be unfit parents, a policy that continued in Michigan until a state court of appeals decision in the 1980s. "I was ten years ahead of that court ruling," Nan says.

Her husband was granted custody of their daughters. "They did eventually come to live with me," she says, "out of their own need to live with their mom." In hindsight, she says, "all of the struggling and loss of custody and political involvement that I had through the seventies was character building, strengthening. Maybe for some that wouldn't have been the case, but for me it was. I didn't feel that I was a victim of the system. I always felt I was going to change the system.'

Nan recently attended a conference of 300 women, ages forty to eighty, who are calling themselves "crones" and fighting the stereotypes of old women. "My thing right now, as a former activist and as a psychologist, is aging with dignity and spirit," she says. "There is a whole movement underfoot on the part of women to change stereotypes of aging. It's a reminder of the early days of the women's movement."

"It was terrifying and mysterious, as if aliens had been involved . . . to see young, handsome, healthy, vital people withering away.

> - Whitley Setrakian on the AIDS epidemic

The early attitudes and beliefs about AIDS in the gay community were an ocean-span away from the activism and awareness of today. When the first hints surfaced of a deadly infection spread by gay sex, some were tempted to dismiss it as fiction, a horror story invented by conservatives desperate to curb the sexual revolution. With little known about the disease and no treatment available, many gays initially refused to be tested, assuming the information would only be used against them.

In a 1988 Observer feature Bryant Anderson recalled why he didn't take the threat of AIDS seriously at first. His attitude, he said, was common among Ann Arbor's homosexual men: "I'm aware of it, [but] I feel fine. It can't happen to me." He had rejected suggestions that he change his sexual practices to prevent the exchange of body fluids as merely "society's propaganda aimed at suppressing homosexuality.'

By 1988 Anderson knew better-sixteen people in Washtenaw County had already died of AIDS, and his own infection had been diagnosed a year earlier. The death toll would rise tenfold before effective anti-AIDS drugs were developed in the mid-1990s. The drugs came too late to save Anderson and the two other people profiled in the article.

Alarmed by both the HIV-AIDS epidemic and the gay community's resistance to its reality, Jim Toy and others organized Wellness Network Washtenaw in 1985. Patrick Yankee, who began volunteering

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for the group in 1987, recalls that in the

early days the group provided "a range of practical and emotional support for people

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with HIV infection and AIDS"-everything from helping them find a doctor to assisting with housekeeping and running errands. "It was hard, because people were getting sick very fast," Yankee recalls. "Very frequently, you were faced with trying to provide support to someone who couldn't take care of themselves anymore. Those

information to the community at large and sharing what we knew about how to keep

from being infected."

Family members were often the only caregivers available, but many of them were terrified of contracting the disease. "Even the medical community was confused," Yankee recalls. "We heard horror stories about nurses who wouldn't take a tray into a patient's room."

were the first cases we worked with. The

other major role was providing prevention

Realizing that the effort needed "more formalizing, more attention on a regular basis," Yankee volunteered to be the group's first director. At his urging, the group also changed its name to the HIV/AIDS Resource Center, or HARC. "It became clear to me that no one knew what Wellness was.'

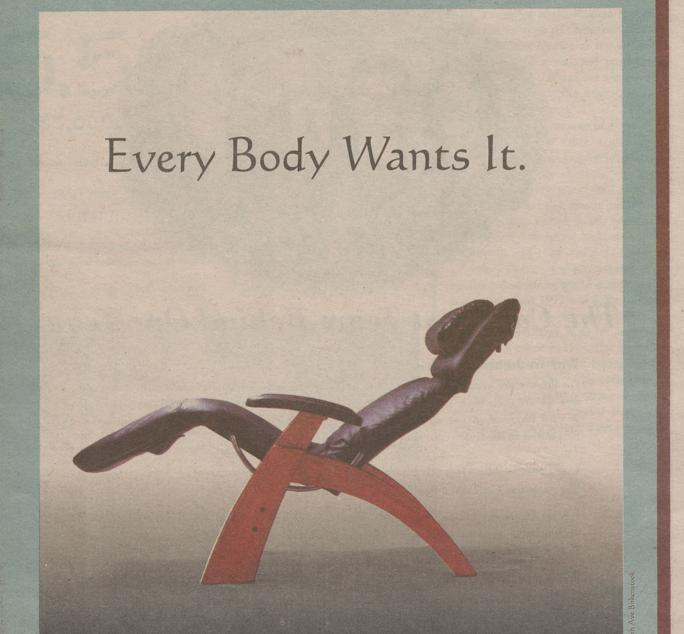
Yankee "was an openly gay man who had a lot of friends who were getting sick," recalls longtime colleague Linda Heilman. "So he started helping his friends. It's amazing when I think about it. When I started, he was just sitting at a table answering phones."

Beginning in 1993, federal funding under the Ryan White Act allowed HARC to pay its staff and also to generate more community revenue. Yankee stayed on as director until last year. "I was lucky enough to be their leader for quite a lot of years," he says. "I had so much help from members of the gay community and the straight community, who didn't ever treat it like a gay disease. In Ann Arbor so much support came from nongay people."

One of those nongay supporters was Whitley Setrakian, a local performing artist who helped produce benefit performances for HARC. Setrakian still sounds bewildered when she recalls the early years of the AIDS epidemic. "We didn't know anything about it," she recalls. "There was so little information, and misinformation. It was inexplicable, and it seemed so perverse.'

Of all those who died, Setrakian was particularly close to Christopher Flynn, whom she describes as "an inspiring dance teacher as well as a popular local actor and arts supporter."

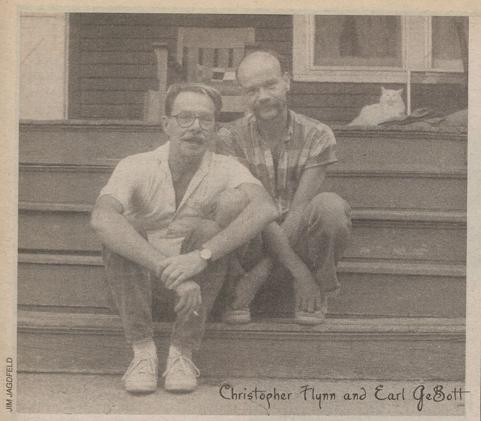
Flynn joined the U-M dance faculty in the mid-1970s, moving from Detroit and bringing with him student Madonna Louise Ciccone, to whom he was mentor and longtime friend. "He was the best ballet teacher I've ever had-no comparison," says Setrakian. "He was phenomenal because he circumvented the usual boring ways of describing technique. He found



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new ways to explain it that were filled with delight and metaphor. There are things I remember he taught that I still use today, teaching ways of describing movement."

After Setrakian graduated, "Christopher agreed to serve on the board of directors when I started my company [People Dancing], and he worked very hard at that. He brought his aesthetic and his humor and drive to building my company. I felt so privileged."

Flynn and longtime companion Earl GeBott shared a house on Ashley Street, "almost right across the street from the Washtenaw Dairy," Setrakian recalls. "It was a vital, funky, fun-filled household with cats. And every time I see that house, I can picture them on that porch . . . and they're not there anymore."

Flynn and GeBott both died of AIDS; Setrakian wrote Flynn's obituary. "It was another lifetime," says Setrakian. "Sometimes I want to go up to the people who live in that house, and I want to say, 'Don't you realize Christopher used to live here—Christopher and Earl used to live here?"

"The happy stuff is what life is about. . We created businesses together—created a surrogate family. The fighting is not the important part. It's just what you have to do."

—Jim

Jim and Kent live in a little house by a lake in the Irish Hills with three happy dogs and a garden the whole width of their yard. It's worth the commute to Ann Arbor, where Kent is an estate manager. They met nearly two decades ago, when Kent moved into the farmhouse where Jim lived with a group of his friends, and fell in love.

"I told him he didn't know what he was getting into," Jim recalls, "that I've got kids." But Kent did know: Jim's wife of nine years had left him, taking his daughters, one-year-old Quinn and five-year-old Reagan, and remarried into an abusive relationship. The girls regularly came to the farm for visits. He knew what he was getting into, he insisted, and patiently waited for Jim to stop resisting and accept the opportunity of a lifetime.

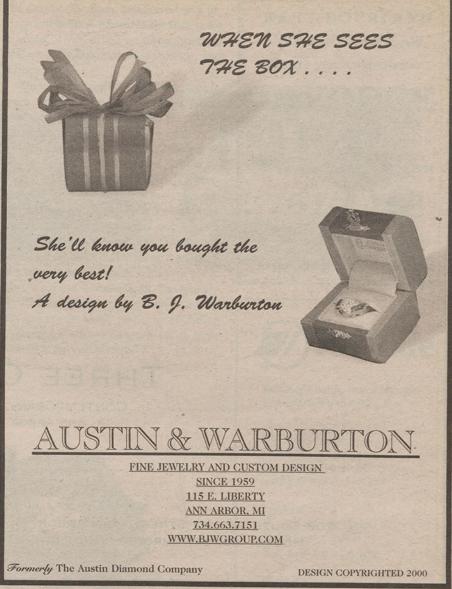
When Jim's ex left her husband, Jim and Kent moved her and the girls into the farmhouse. But after she went back to her husband, taking the girls, they hired a lawyer and started fighting for visitation rights.

At that time, being gay "wasn't open like now, wasn't accepted," says Kent. He recalls that in the late 1970s his car and house were vandalized and he was threatened. Gay couples, let alone gay parents, tried hard to pass unnoticed. With no public role models, he and Jim modeled their own relationship after straight couples they admired.

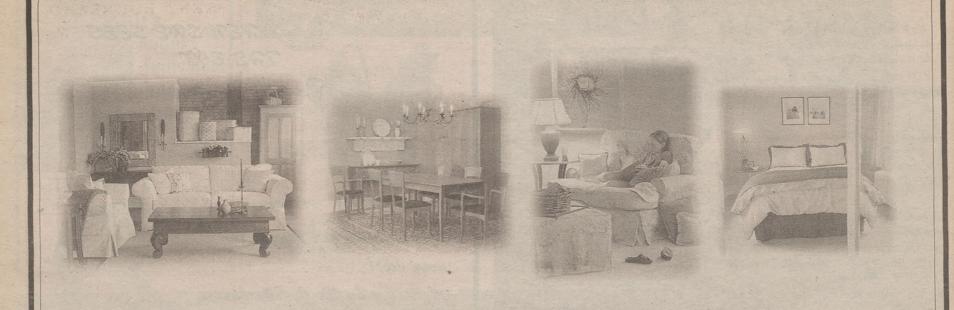
It's not surprising that they went to such lengths to help Jim's ex-wife. With a habit of "adopting" people who strike their fancy, they have created a sort of surrogate family—a group of friends who met over the years while working in various Ann Arbor restaurants.

I am invited to interview them while they celebrate the birthday of one member of the extended family. For years Bunnie lived with Jim and Kent; she now lives across the street from them. "I took Bunnie under my wing," Jim recalls. "I kept asking her out [to the farmhouse], and she finally agreed to do it because she thought if she went with me, maybe I'd leave her alone. That was nineteen years ago."

We eat, drink, laugh, sit down to talk for a while, and then start all over again. It isn't just Jim and Kent telling their story, but rather "the family"—Jim, Kent, Bunnie, and the dozen or so others who are called Grandma, Grandpa, Aunt, and Uncle. They help with details, dates, and the collective memories of raising Reagan and Quinn. They have been there every step of the way.







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As Kent sits smoking quietly, he carefully details the battle for the children he calls his own. "The court system is set up so that men are the deadbeats. [Jim's ex] could call and make all sorts of allegations, and an investigator would be sent out automatically. A prosecutor would be assigned, and it would be followed through. But when Jim called, we had to hire an attorney. We would make the same complaint and nothing would happen."

Finally the girls' stepfather was ordered to get out of the house for abusing them. Instead, he and their mom took Reagan and Quinn and moved out of state. "We taught [the girls] how to call collect," Jim laughs. "Reagan would call and say, 'I'm in Texas.' Then the process would start all over again."

"We continued fighting, spending money on lawyers, spending thousands of dollars," continues Kent. "Finally she was ordered to send them up—we got a warrant for her arrest. But that didn't work. What worked was when Reagan ran away." Members of her church flew her back to her father in Michigan.

Late one night about a month later, Jim and Kent received a drunken phone call from the girls' mother. She said that Quinn could come to live with them too—but only if they flew her out that night.

After finding there were no more flights from Texas to Detroit that night, they booked one to Chicago. Kent kept the girls' mother on the phone until it was time to leave for the airport, convincing her that Ann Arbor is only an hour from Chicago. Jim and Bunnie jumped in the car and drove like crazy to pick up Quinn. "We thought, 'Maybe they'll send her, maybe they won't,'" says Jim, "but someone had to be there if they did."

At about four in the morning, Quinn got off that airplane and drove home with her father. The four have lived as a family since that day. "Once they got here it was easy," Kent says. "It was everything that happened before that was difficult."

Despite the lengthy custody battle, Jim stresses, "We have a great life. I think it certainly is a lot of fun most of the time." The fact that their father's partner is a man has never been an issue for Reagan and Quinn, who are now in their twenties. "I've just always been someone who is in their life," Kent says simply. "When you're a child, you don't care about who sleeps with who. You don't know about sex. You just know if someone is there for you, and for the last couple of decades I've been someone they can trust."

Just as they once turned to straight couples for guidance, straight friends now look on Jim and Kent as role models for their own family lives. Kent blames past harassment for "the myth that gay relationships don't last. In my family, mine and Jim's relationship is the longest lasting, including my parents'—they're divorced."

Kent and Jim are now proud grandparents. Kent still works full time in Ann Arbor, but Jim is retired and takes care of his grandchildren while his daughters work. He also sends me E-mails, asking when they can see me again.



"Mom' is a job description at our house, not a mother's name. In our family, mom' means parent."

-Laura Sky Brown

Laura Sky Brown and her partner have been friends since the 1970s and a couple for twelve years. They and their four children share a big west-side home. But if you had predicted this scenario to Brown twenty-five years ago, it would have been a hard sell.

Brown, forty-three, moved to Ann Arbor in fall 1975 as a sophomore in the U-M journalism department. She joined "A Woman's Bookstore," which was a feminist group and mostly lesbian. "Everything was a collective in those days," she remembers. "No one was in charge. We made decisions jointly." The bookstore was staffed completely by volunteers

At the time, Brown recalls, joining the collective was "the biggest deal of my life." The store, on a second floor overlooking Liberty and Fifth Avenue, was part of a beehive of activity that included the Women's Crisis Center and the newspaper Her-Self, which was on its last legs when Brown joined. It "was the thing to do, the place to be," Brown recalls. "Everyone who wanted to be involved hung out there. . . . A bulletin board was hung up with messages [and] ads for roommates."

Bookstore members and others organized the Lesbian Writers Collective, and in

January 1977 they launched a newsletter, *The Leaping Lesbian*, that served as a literary and cultural forum. In the four years it lasted, it was relied on throughout the Midwest for information, guidance, and inspiration.

There were conflicts amid the excitement. For instance, some in the lesbianfeminist community felt that male drag queens and cross-dressing were insulting to women. Gay men and lesbians didn't quite consider themselves part of the same community, and with so much emphasis on volunteering and working collectively, striving for a professional career was looked down upon. Brown remembers that one woman, who worked as an engineer in Detroit, was pressured by other members of the collective because her job made it hard for her to work a regular volunteer shift. She remembers that at another meeting a woman literally spat out the word "professional" during a discussion of how to reach out to other women in the community.

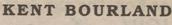
THE CONTROL OF THE LESBOAN Ann Arbor Midigan

Radical politics were all-pervasive After hours of deliberation

Radical politics were all-pervasive. After hours of deliberation, a sign was posted on the door in the hall-way outside the bookstore, reading "Men are requested to respect our desire for a women-only space." Men were "requested" because attempting to ban them outright would have been illegal. "The [lesbian] bookstore in town now wouldn't dream of not allowing men," Brown points out. "It was a huge deal then."

It wasn't to last, however. "By 1980 you could see the page turning," Brown recalls. "Younger students, after the midseventies, placed complete emphasis on getting a job to make money. The economy was bad." After graduating in 1978 she worked as an editor, eventually becoming copy chief of Automobile Magazine, before quitting full-time work to be at home with her children. She now does part-time freelance editing and writes a column for Twins Magazine that she says is all about "letting your kids get dirty, be kids, and watch no TV.

"We decided to have kids together, and we are both parents," Brown says of her own family. "In our case a donor was used, and it's just a medical thing. The donor is not in the structure of our family.



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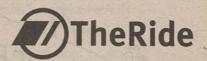
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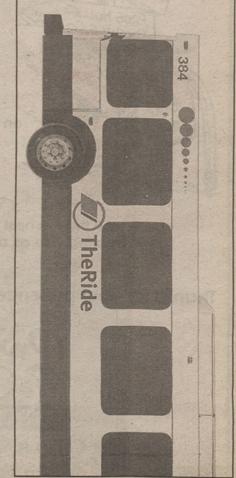
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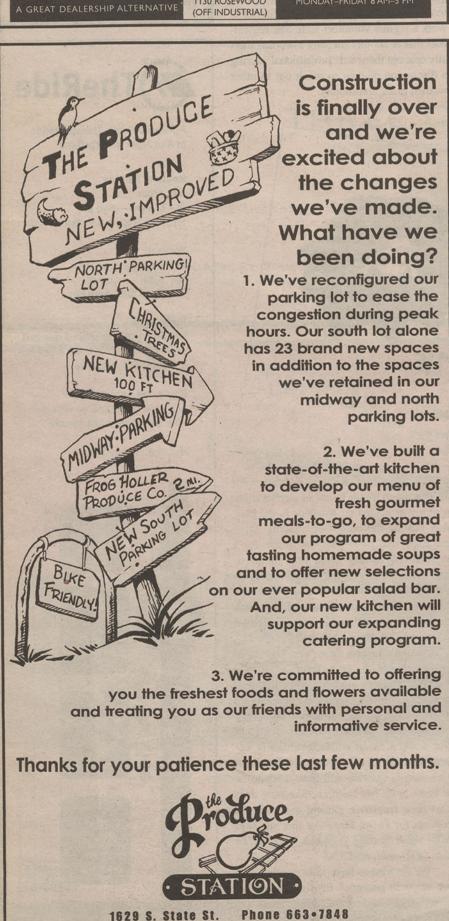
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gay in Ann Arbor continued

"Some straight couples don't get that; they can't let go of the man part. Our kids have two parents, and we are both equal partners."

"Remember, in the eighties there was no Internet, and and income. "Now my friends think they are the coolest parents around. My parents were if you lived in a small town at my wedding; all my friends were there. It was the same as when my brother and where there were no gay movies, no gay culture, all sister got married." Lisa, now thirty-five, met her current you have is your school and community. And then you come to the V of M, and its, like, Whoa-I can be a _Lisa Ruby

Today Lisa Ruby is an attorney at the Michigan Poverty Law Program, but she was only seventeen in the early 1980s, when she came to Ann Arbor from Southfield to attend the U-M. She had dated some boys in high school because, she says, "that's what you did in high school." But in college, "during my sophomore year, I was, like, 'Y'know, I think I'm a lesbian."

At first, she says, she was more rebellious and obvious about her sexual preferfriend's hand in public, she didn't encounter much trouble in Ann Arbor. And you want to be. just being in a community with a visible gay presence was inspiring. "You see gays and lesbians who have jobs," she says, "who are doctors and teachers. They have short hair and don't have any diseases."

Ruby has a very close relationship with her parents. "When I was a freshman I was very homesick," she recalls. "I had always been a homebody. My mother would come up to visit me. I was telling her how I had a relationship with a woman, and she was very kind. She thought it was a phase and said, 'These things can happen when women get too close and you cross over the line.'

During her first serious relationship, which lasted five years, Ruby's parents shifted gears and moved to the next step of acceptance of and guidance for their daughter. "Dad would send me comic strips about gay characters," she remempartner, an African American police officer, in 1992. After a four-and-a-half-year courtship, they married at Temple Beth Emeth. They joke that it was a shotgun wedding-they had adopted a two-yearold boy in March but didn't get married until July.

bers. And after her parents realized that

her lifestyle wasn't going to be changing,

they gave her a slightly different version

of the "speech" they had given her sister

about relationships, encouraging her to

make wise choices about her profession

"It's really a good feeling to know that if you're a good student and

-Justin Redpath-Dascola

It's a sign of growing tolerance that some young gays now feel free to proclaim their sexual orientation as early as age fifteen or sixteen. When Justin Redpath-Dascola (formerly Millen) came out to family and friends during his sophomore year at Pioneer, he says, "I didn't lose any friends-I made more friends."

But there were still barriers. In 1996, during his senior year, the student council president and the council's advisor asked him to speak at the opening assembly for Cultural Awareness Week to represent the gay community. Justin says he was "really enthusiastic and surprised, but happy to be asked to do such a thing. I was relieved that people were interested."

Not everyone was interested. Specifi-

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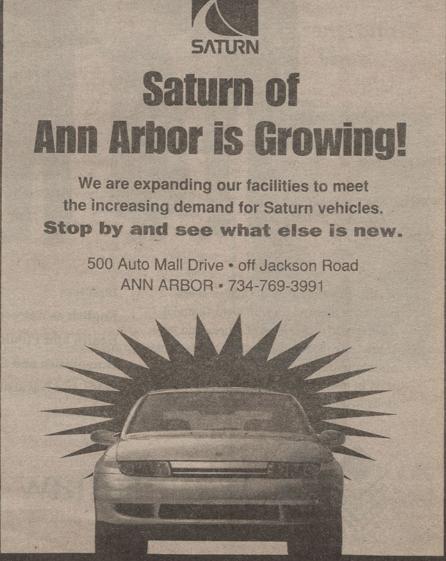
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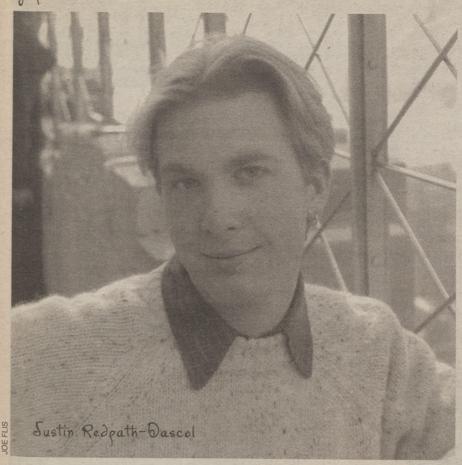
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Washtenaw Community College



cally, the principal at the time, Bob Galardi, wasn't; according to Justin, Galardi refused to allow the speech. His reasons varied, but the two that Justin remembers most vividly were that Justin couldn't give a speech on gay culture because there wasn't any gay culture and that if Galardi did allow Justin to make the speech Justin's safety couldn't be guaranteed. Although both seemed ridiculous to Justin, there was nothing he could do.

But on Monday, when the activities of Cultural Awareness Week began without the much anticipated speech, other students became agitated. "The only reason I wasn't able to speak was because I was gay," Justin says. "Kids were going up to Galardi in the hallway and outright asking him, 'Is it true-that you wouldn't let

Justin speak?'

On Thursday the student council advisor again approached Justin and said, "I've been thinking, and I'd like you to give the closing speech as the person most affected by Cultural Awareness Week." After a meeting with the principal, which included a phone call to Justin's very supportive mother, Galardi gave the go-ahead.

Because the assembly was split into two groups, Justin had to give his presentation twice. "It was great-one of the best experiences so far in my life," he says enthusiastically. "The first time . . . I was shaking all over—completely nervous. [At the] second assembly I was not as nervous. Everyone clapped and stood up as well. It was amazing that they had such pride in me as a fellow student and as a speaker that they would feel good enough about it to give me a standing ovation." Afterward a football player approached him to say, "Man, that really took balls."

The presentation had long-term effects as well. One of Justin's friends thanked him months later. She had been uncomfortable telling other students that her mother is a lesbian, but his courage and candor put her more at ease-and also helped other students become more receptive and understanding.

Justin has given up the name of his biological father, with whom he had deep disagreements. He recently graduated from the University of Malta, a tiny island nation fifty miles south of Sicily. "I was studying Latin classics and Roman culture," he says. "Why not be stuck in the middle of the Mediterranean?" Now twenty-one and working with an HIV/AIDS general service organization in Baltimore, he aims to teach Latin in high school, attend grad school, and possibly teach at the college level.

There was gay sex in Malta, Justin writes, but "no gay life/culture . . . no sense of gay identity." He adds, "It made me try to think-what is being gay all about, and is it worth fighting so vigorous-

But Justin confronted adult realities with a big boost from his experience at Pioneer: "It blew me away, really made me feel proud too-not only proud to be gay, but proud to be part of such an openminded group of people."

"At what point do you tell someone you are a transserual? If you do right off, that person may never get to know the real you. But if you don't tell, there is a sense of betrayal, of keeping something important from being shared."

-P. J. Two Ravens

The umbrella term transgender, still evolving, basically covers cross-dressers,

transsexuals, and intersexuals. Crossdressers wear clothing designed for the other biological gender. Transsexuals seek to physically alter their bodies through hormones, herbs, or surgery. There is some controversy over intersexuals, who used to be known as hermaphrodites. According to local activist Two Ravens, there is a common misconception that hermaphrodites are born with mixed genitalia. That basically never happens, he says. Typically, a child will be born with a very large clitoris or a very small penis, and the doctor "freaks," performing surgery and usually making the child a girl.

"Somehow the medical community interprets an intersexual body as ambiguous. What's unfortunate about that is often a doctor or uninformed parent will make a gender decision before a child has a chance to demonstrate who he or she is. A lot of times surgeries are mutilating, not to mention [the] confusion, secrecy, and shame. Many of these people can't get their medical records and don't know what was done to them, or they are told as an adult."

Writing about the transgender community is difficult. Many transgender folks have overcome extraordinary obstacles to start a new life and don't want to be interviewed. Two Ravens, a longtime LGBTA activist, is the exception: a thirty-fiveyear-old transsexual who also identifies himself as a man, an artist, a Sagittarius, and a social worker.

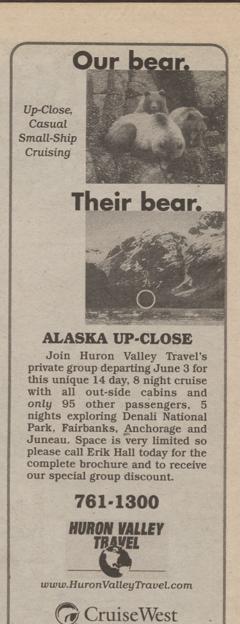
Two Ravens lived as a lesbian for about fifteen years. In that time, he says, "I felt like I grew through and beyond the identity of butch." But while he planned to someday make the transition from female to male, "it was always some point in the future, never close by.'

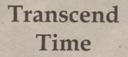
While in grad school Two Ravens interned at the LGBTA office; he likes to think that his work there helped to add "transgender" to that office's name. It was then, while immersed in his identity and fighting to educate his community, that he realized the time had come for transition from female to male, before starting his career. Handing a résumé to a potential employer that includes references for someone with a different name and gender can undermine one's chances of getting a job.

Before his transition Two Ravens remembers being hassled in women's bathrooms because of his masculine looks. But even having a well-endowed chest didn't matter to the men he shared rest rooms with afterward. Men, he says, don't care—they are there to do a job, not have an event.

Deciding when and how to disclose his history remains a challenge. "When I was a lesbian, I could casually drop in conversation 'my girlfriend,' "Two Ravens explains. "But now, I can't drop in 'when I was a Girl Scout' without having a much longer conversation."

It's a conversation that's likely to become increasingly common in years to come. Despite the understandable reticence of many transgender people, Two Ravens says, "We're everywhere. People don't see us, but we want to be heard. We want to modify people's thinking about gender."







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The County's CEO

He won on the homeless shelter.
He lost on the new courthouse. But win or lose, Bob Guenzel has given what he calls the "invisible government" unexpected clout.
by Eve Silberman



f you ever ran a marathon," says Washtenaw County administrator Bob Guenzel, "you can probably build a homeless shelter. It's that type of endurance."

Guenzel has run fifteen marathons. But no race ever tested his endurance more than the messy, litigious, publicized, polarizing—and ultimately successful—struggle to get the county a new homeless shelter. "There are lots of people who'd have given up after four and a half years," notes deputy administrator Frank Cambria, who worked closely on the effort.

Guenzel sprang the shelter on his bosses, the fifteen county commissioners, not the other way around. (In fact, the county government, although required to pay for jails and courts, is not legally obligated to provide an address for people who don't have one.) In hindsight, the administrator admits he didn't expect the NIMBY (not in my backyard) backlash against the shelter to get as nasty as it did. How could he have known his former aerobics instructor would shout him down at a public hearing? But it was worth it, Guenzel insists. "In life you can affect so few things! This was an opportunity, right into our lap."

A ceremonial groundbreaking for the \$5 million project is scheduled for December 14. Still, Guenzel admits that he will worry to the end. "Until I get that shovel in the ground," he says, "I can't be sure."

uenzel, fifty-nine, became the county's CEO six years ago this fall. He had been the county's attorney (formally, the corporation counsel) from 1973 until 1994. Then hotshot administrator Larry Brown moved on to Kansas City after just two years on the job. Guenzel threw his hat into the ring, stressing his devotion to Washtenaw County, and the commissioners hired him without even interviewing other applicants. "We had a lot of respect for his management and administrative skills," recalls commission chair Christina Montague. 'We said, 'No brainer—this is our guy.'

It helped that Guenzel had been a popular attorney. But the biggest draw may have been everyone's certainty that Guenzel was here to stay. "He loves Washtenaw County with all his heart," says commissioner Joe Yekulis.

Guenzel's been teased about what some see as his striking resemblance to dethroned televangelist Jim Bakker. He's short, a snappy dresser (suits and ties or cool sport clothes), and frequently flashes a boyish, can-do grin. Called Bob by seemingly everyone, Guenzel is essentially the CEO of Washtenaw County, which, with just over 300,000 residents, is the sixth largest in Michigan. The county seat is Ann Arbor. Three other cities (Ypsilanti, Saline, and the northern part of Milan) are also within its borders, along with four villages (Chelsea, Dexter, Manchester, and Barton Hills) and twenty townships, rang-

don on the northwest.

five Republicans.

planning.

ing from Augusta on the southeast to Lyn-

the local courts and jail, provides social

services on behalf of the state, and oper-

ates a park system. It also fills in as need-

ed providing smaller local governments

with services like policing and building

inspection. Some 1,300 county employ-

ees serve under Guenzel. However, the chain of command is not always straightforward, complicating his job. The sher-

iff, drain commissioner, and clerk, for example, are elected. Guenzel himself

serves at the pleasure of the county commissioners, currently ten Democrats and

The county is "the weakest form of

government in Michigan," says Guenzel. "I like to call it the 'invisible' government." The real surprise of Guenzel's tenure is that he has given the invisible government a face, voice, and clout it didn't previously possess. Even commissioners who've fought with him praise his achievements. Guenzel steered the county out of turbulent financial waters, initiated the construction of four new buildings, and put county employees through a love-

thy-job program that he claims has boost-

ed morale and job performance. He also

started Sustainable Washtenaw, the first

countywide think tank on environmental

Montague, a Democrat. "He's just one of

those people who's got this electricity," agrees Republican commissioner Marlene

Chockley, adding, "I think he really has a

A visionary, maybe, but not a saint. Many people who've worked with Guen-

zel say that he's impatient and heats up easily, getting red in the face. Aware of

the criticism, Guenzel acknowledges, "I can get pretty passionate about things." People who work with Guenzel usually like him. They shrug off his mini-outbursts. "He's lost it with me," says Woody

Holman, president of the Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce. "But it doesn't

last with Bob. He doesn't hold a grudge."

fraternity and partying than politics. But

along with a lot of people of his genera-

tion, he worshiped John Kennedy. He was in the crowd gathered in front of the

Michigan Union when Kennedy, in a

post-midnight campaign speech, first

floated the idea that became the Peace

Corps. Some in that audience wound up building schools in Peru or teaching Eng-

lish in Ghana. Guenzel wound up cham-

pioning a homeless shelter in Ann Arbor. What he took away from the Kennedy

era, he says, "was that sense of justice, of

fair play-that we need to do things because some of us are very fortunate."

hen Guenzel en-

rolled at the U-M as

a freshman in 1960,

he was more inter-

ested in pledging a

vision and a heart driving the county."

"He's a visionary," says Christina

The county keeps vital records, runs

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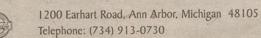
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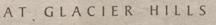
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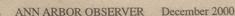






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Guenzel was the first person in his family to go to college. His father, a German immigrant, wanted to be an engineer but had the misfortune to come of age during the Great Depression. Instead, he became a tool and die maker and eventually managed a factory.

Proud that Guenzel even went to college (he has a B.B.A.), his parents further rejoiced when he went on to the U-M Law School. But they were taken aback when, in the spirit of the era, he decided to use his degree for public service rather than to make big bucks. His first job out of law school was with the National Labor Relations Board, investigating allegations of union busting. After two years he moved on to the Ann Arbor city attorney's office, where he stayed from 1969 to 1973.

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Those were interesting years in the city. Democrat Bob Harris had broken the

Previously, prosecutor Bill Delhey had done the county's legal work. In that less complicated time, Delhey delivered all the county's legal documents to Guenzel in three boxes. But the young attorney was taken aback with "the first case I almost had to try" on the county's behalf. Then sheriff Doug Harvey, who relished confrontations with antiwar students, had cut the hair of a number of protesters while they were in custody. Backed by the American Civil Liberties Union, the students filed suit. Guenzel, whose sympathies were with the protesters, just managed to keep the case from going to court by offering to settle at \$900 a haircut.

Reflecting an increasingly litigationhappy America, lawsuits against the county grew rapidly. It was not unusual, Guenzel recalls, to be handling twenty or thirty suits simultaneously. But the most de-



traditional Republican grip on the mayor's office, and Guenzel was part of a team of bright, high-minded young lawyers hired by then city attorney Jerry Lax. Lax's posse wrote up the city's human rights ordinance and marijuana law and also gave advice on free-speech issues. When Republican councilman Jim Stephenson wanted to sue an underground newspaper for printing a doctored photograph that showed him holding male genitalia instead of a microphone, the young lawyers advised otherwise. "We were a real gungho bunch," recalls Bruce Laidlaw, who later became city attorney himself.

In 1972 Guenzel was on the brink of announcing his candidacy for state representative but pulled back when the better-known Perry Bullard decided to run. Bullard went on to serve as Ann Arbor's state rep for the next twenty years. Guenzel went on to become Washtenaw County's first corporation counsel. In 1979 Guenzel joined a law firm that included his former boss, Bob Harris, but continued to represent the county as an independent contractor.

manding part of the job was the county's labor negotiations (almost all county employees belong to unions). Guenzel quickly earned a reputation as a tough but focused negotiator. Dwight Walls, a former union negotiator for the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, recalls an exhausting, emotional all-night session that seemed to be going nowhere. He and Guenzel both started to walk away from each other. Then they swiveled about, and both said, simultaneously, "We're going to get a contract." The impasse was broken, and they settled a few hours later. Later, Walls and other AFSCME officials supported Guenzel for the administrator's job.

Further challenges awaited him as county administrator—finances, for example. For various reasons, including a one-year property tax freeze, the county had been forced to dip into its reserves to cover a \$1 million deficit; once it even forced employees to take a day off without pay. To Guenzel it seemed as though the county was almost resigned to "a deficit that won't go away."

In his first year on the job, Guenzel



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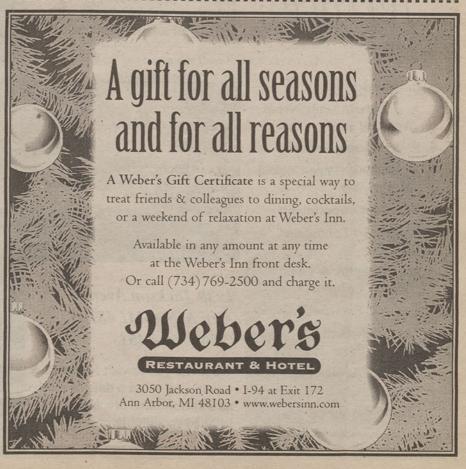
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THE COUNTY'S CEO continued

wiped out the deficit, largely by eliminating a number of positions. For example, declaring that court administration was "top heavy," he cut some management positions and saved \$300,000 a year (most people affected found other jobs with the county or took early retirement).

He admits that the economy of the late 1990s cooperated nicely with his belt tightening. "Our property tax values went up more than we had projected—five or six percent," he says. This fall, Guenzel triumphantly presented the commissioners with a report. It showed that the county's reserves had increased from under 4 percent to 7 percent of its budget, that its bond rating had improved, and that instead of a shortfall, the county was now projecting a cumulative surplus of almost \$2 million over the next five years.

hile fixing the county's finances, Guenzel also plunged ahead with an ambitious building

management director. Previously, Freeman says, the county had reacted to immediate space shortages rather than making long-term plans. "Since 1995 we've taken on a number of projects designed to take us into the future."

The building project that consumed the greatest part of Guenzel's time and energy was the shelter. Slightly more than a year after Guenzel came on board, in 1995, the independent Shelter Association of Washtenaw County made its annual pitch to the county. Together the city and the county provided almost half of the nonprofit group's funding. Typically, Guenzel would have recommended the funding and the Democrat-controlled county board would have rubber-stamped it. The city would do the same.

But this year something in him snapped. He told the commission that the shelter board was "dysfunctional" (a comment he now mildly regrets). He recommended only short-term funding—on the condition that a government-appointed panel temporarily take control of the shelter. Guenzel and Ann Arbor city administrator Neal Berlin took the lead in organizing a task force on homelessness, with the hope-of reaching some decisions about the



plan. "What we said to the board was, 'That's extra dollars. Let's plow that back in the infrastructure,' "he recalls. The first of his projects, a handsome new building at 200 North Main, next door to the county administration offices, is now nearing completion; it will house the county clerk's office, among others. Construction is also under way for a new environmental services building on Zeeb Road in Scio Township. And the county will soon break ground on Hogback Road for a new juvenile detention facility, which will include educational services.

"Bob's leadership changed direction," says Tom Freeman, the county's facilities

shelter's future. Berlin also felt strongly about the issue, and he and Guenzel worked well together.

In Ann Arbor it's not hard to recruit talented, knowledgeable people to brainstorm virtually any subject. Representatives from local nonprofits, the homeless community, the chamber of commerce, and, of course, city and county government quickly assembled. One committee strongly recommended abandoning the present men's shelter on West Huron, a former church which was crumbling physically and further cursed by its location in the Allen's Creek floodplain. The harder issue was finding an alternative location.

After three months of fruitless discussion, Guenzel, exasperated, met with Frank Cambria. The two men decided to propose building the shelter on countyowned property on Ellsworth Road, Cambria recalls, "because, frankly, we had no

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The Ellsworth Road proposal was a psychological gambit. Proposing a location "was the rocket that shot off," says Cambria. "It did exactly what we wanted it to do." Without a site on the table, he explains, all the task force amounted to was a group of people having "a great conversation."

A rocket, indeed. Furious residents near the proposed location stormed meetings and left angry phone messages at Guenzel's and Cambria's offices. Advocates for the homeless complained that the plan was a cynical ploy to remove their clients from downtown. Eventually the Ellsworth site was abandoned after Pittsfield Township filed a lawsuit protesting that the property was not zoned for such use. (The county won the suit, but the township is appealing.)

The city and county turned their attention back to downtown, where they faced the wrath of a new group of neighbors. Ultimately, after unsuccessfully exploring another site, the Washtenaw Housing Alliance (a consortium of agencies that will contract with the county to run the shelter) closed in on a vacant lot on Huron just half a block east of the present shelter.

In July Guenzel watched with tears in his eyes as the board of commissioners approved \$2 million in funding for the planned 150-bed, state-of-the-art facility. The city is contributing \$1 million to the project, and WHA will privately raise another \$2 million.

Ellen Schulmeister, director of the shelter, says that Guenzel was the project's life support system. "What Bob brought to the process was extraordinary leadership," she says. "The discussion of homelessness was not one the community wanted to take on. He had tremendous determination.'

uenzel paid a price for his leadership. The shelter debate quickly became partisan, and the final ten-to-five vote in favor broke down along party lines.

Republicans opposed getting into the shelter business on both practical and philosophical grounds. "County funds will be going into that for years," notes commissioner Mike DuRussel of Freedom Township. "It makes you wonder-if times are tough, what's going to happen?"

"Suddenly, the city of Ann Arbor's problems become everyone's problems," adds commissioner Joe Yekulis of Chelsea. It's a pointed reference to the fact that homeless individuals do not usually congregate in Chelsea.

Says Guenzel, "I really pride myself on my relationship with all the commissioners, but that really did drive a wedge between myself and some of the Republicans."



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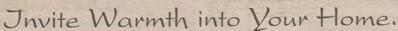
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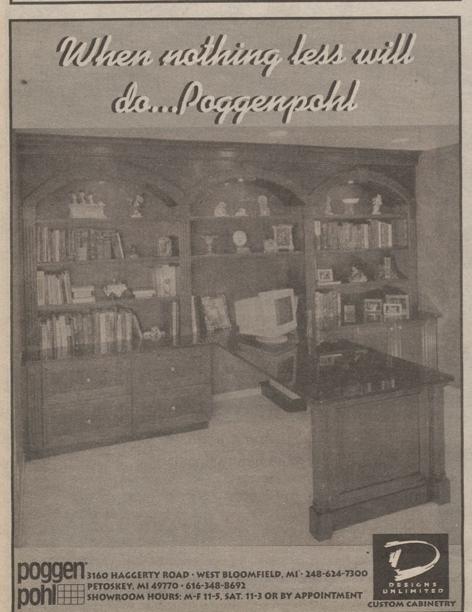
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THE COUNTY'S CEO continued

Partisan politics has always dominated the commission. But tensions between the Democratic majority, representing Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, and the Republican minority, representing the rest of the county, have worsened in the past two years. (Guenzel's own Democratic leanings were no secret when he was hired, but he has taken pains to stay clear of party politics since.)

The ill will apparently has more to do with personalities than politics, but separating the two isn't easy. In addition to the shelter battle, a fight over the funding of police services throughout the county left the Republicans crying foul and putting much of the blame on Guenzel.

Guenzel let the wasps out of the nest two years ago, after voters turned down a millage that would have paid for a new jail. Hunting for alternative sources of money to improve the jail, he looked at the complicated funding formula for the sheriff's road patrol. When he broke it down, he concluded that small rural townships were not paying their share. After going back and forth with the commissioners, Guenzel backed a proposal that required townships to pay for routine sheriff patrols.

Joe Yekulis, a former sheriff's deputy, says that withdrawing road patrol unfairly penalizes the county's weakest units. "For the small farming communities like Sharon or Lodi township, the tax base is thin," he points out. Yet under the new plan, approved last June, the cost of contracting for a forty-hour-a week deputy would be \$72,000 a year.

Guenzel bristles at the criticism. "Why do they [the townships] pay one mill [in property taxes] and I pay seventeen mills in the city?" he demands. "Shouldn't they pay something for police services?" The solution, he suggests, is that "five or six of those townships need to gather together and purchase [police] services."

It's unclear exactly what the townships will do. But while Yekulis and DuRussel are bitter over the road patrol change, both express reluctant respect for Guenzel. "I think Bob has done a good job," concedes DuRussel.

Reflects Yekulis, a longtime county insider, "Bob provides the county with a very strong sense of direction. But most of that flows around the Ann Arbor area—which doesn't help my constituents."

picture of Martin Luther King Jr. hangs on the wall of Guenzel's office, along with a "vision statement" handwritten in marker on a sheet of white paper: "My personal life mission is to use the relationships established by government to make life better for people by supporting and empowering them to lead a satisfied and fulfilled life."

Guenzel loves such corporate-culture exercises. He often refers to the "seven guiding principles" that he has impressed

on both the commissioners and county employees. They include such straightforward goals as "Reduce the cost of conducting the county's business," "Ensure long-term fiscal stability," and "Enhance customer service." Guenzel thinks such efforts are needed to create a sense of community in an organization whose various units have little in common. "We arrest people. . . . We issue birth certificates," he once told the *Ann Arbor News*. "How we communicate—that's our challenge!"

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Guenzel has set up discussion groups, required employees to put together plans describing their job goals, and conducted two employee surveys to uncover problems. The second survey, he says, showed a definite improvement in employee morale. Guenzel's easily triggered enthusiasm undoubtedly helped. To kick off the United Way Day of Caring, when county employees are encouraged to devote a day to community service, "Bob led us in a cheer," recalls Tom Freeman. Guenzel would shout, "It's what we do!" and the employees would shout back, "Together!"

Guenzel himself has long been involved in community service. Back in the 1970s he helped launch Project Grow, the program that allows Ann Arbor residents to plant gardens on vacant city-owned land. Perhaps his biggest passion, apart from running, is the Ark. He's been on the folk club's board for more than two decades and as president is currently leading an ambitious fund-raising campaign.

Guenzel and his wife, Pam, an education consultant and artist, live in Burns Park. The couple raised two daughters, both recently married. Lissa, Guenzel says proudly, is a doctor in Elko, Nevada; Robin teaches English as a second language in New Zealand.

Guenzel's outside activities expanded after he became administrator. He joined the board of United Way when it was struggling to recover from a financial scandal involving a former director. "It was a great time to join," he says. "We had nowhere to go but up!"

Guenzel also initiated "Sustainable Washtenaw," part of the international movement that seeks to balance the claims of the environment, the economy, and society at large. "It's a three-legged stool," says the chamber's Woody Holman, who's chairing the 600-member local group. Sustainable Washtenaw is currently developing a complicated system of indicators (for example, the water quality of the Huron River) to use as barometers for the county's environmental health.

n a foggy November afternoon Guenzel is crisply dressed as usual in a navy suit and a tie, but there's a hint of weariness in his eyes. "I'm too jaded to cry about it," he says. He's talking about Proposal A, the millage request for a new county "justice center" in downtown Ann Arbor. Two days before, the voters decisively rejected the millage.

His disappointment is keen. "It would

have been nice," he reflects over coffee at Kerrytown's Sweet Cravings Bake Shoppe. "In five years we would have a new courthouse." He looks into the distance almost dreamily and then seems to mentally shake himself: "Back to the drawing boards." Earlier, he had tried to cheer up circuit court judge Tim Connors, who had brought together the fourteen county judges in support of the plan. "He was devastated," Guenzel recalls. For his part, Connors praises Guenzel's efforts.

The boldness of proposing a new fivestory courthouse with a projected \$56 million price tag seems typical of Guenzel. In fact, Connors and other county judges, citing a shortage of courtroom space and a lack of privacy, pushed for this one; Guenzel initially resisted. Says attorney Bob Gillette, who campaigned for the proposal, "He was open minded enough to start out saying, 'I'm not sure I support this'-and ended up working strongly for it." Guenzel successfully urged the commissioners to put the proposal on the ballot. But neither the Democrats nor the Republicans pushed it, and the judges themselves weren't able to mount a major campaign for the millage. Ann Arbor voters supported the measure, but a rural backlash against pay-as-you-go road patrol appears to have siphoned off some votes in rural Washtenaw.

When they do go "back to the drawing boards," Guenzel and the judges will probably have to settle for smaller-scale renovations-the administrator doesn't show any eagerness at all to go back to the voters on this. But the defeat doesn't seem to have dampened Guenzel's enthusiasm for new projects. His weariness lifts as he discusses the possibility of setting up a daily commuter train route from Detroit to Lansing, something being explored by a local group. The proposed route already includes Ann Arbor; Guenzel wonders aloud whether the train could make other stops in Washtenaw County.

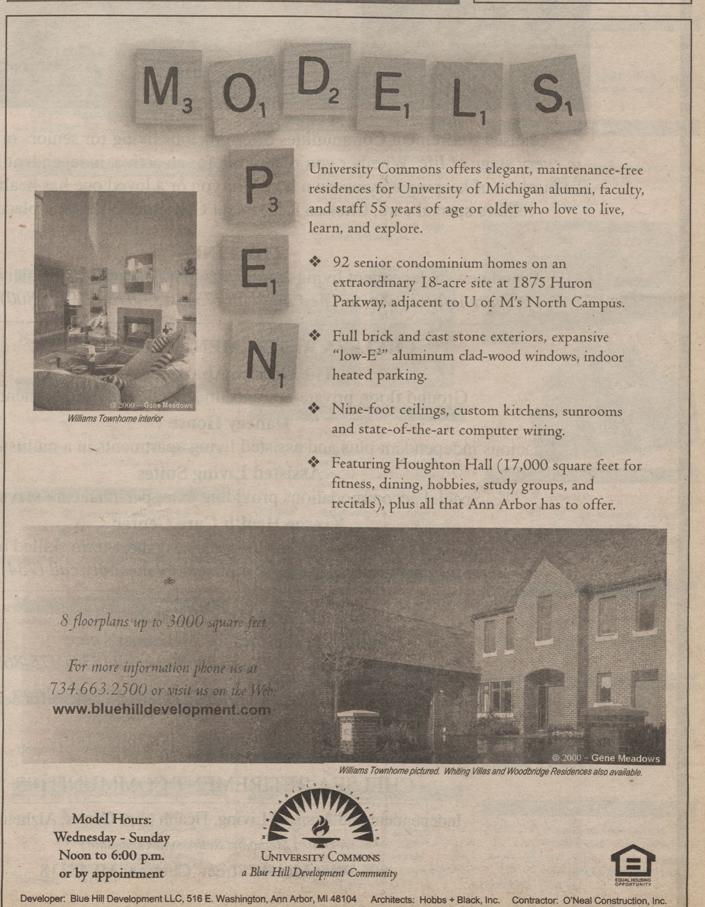
This September Guenzel received his annual report card from the board of commissioners. They gave him 4.6 out of a possible 5.0 points, about an A-minus. Guenzel was praised for his "reputation in community for leadership and vision," "high level of integrity," and hiring of "good people." Criticisms included suggestions to "be a better listener" and to "keep the board of commissioners in driver's seat on politically sensitive policy issues such as homeless shelter and sheriff services/funding.'

Complaints aside, an A-minus is a good grade. And most of the time Guenzel enjoys being CEO of a county—the only kind of CEO he'd want to be. Before he became commissioner, he occasionally regretted that he never ran for office as a young man. Now he says this job "is much more satisfying, in my opinion, than to be in politics."

Hired at least in part because the commissioners knew he wasn't likely to leave for Kansas City, Guenzel knows that he may have given his bosses more excitement than they bargained for. "I think they knew I'd be a go-getter," he says, flashing that grin. "But I don't think they knew it'd be like this!"







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his fall my wife and I moved from Ann Arbor to Gainesville, Florida. The cities are about the same size; both are home to major universities (Gainesville's is the University of Florida); both even are in peninsular states. But how do they stack up as places to live? After a little research, I put together the following scorecard.





POPULATION



GAINESVILLE ANN ARBOR

ADVANTAGE

9

113.000 **98.400**

Comment: Bigger is better

AWARD

D) E

All America City 1984 Money magazine Most Livable City 1995

Comment: Newer is better

NAMESAKE

9 Ann Allen

General Edmund Gaines, hero of the Seminole wars

Comment:

Let's see-nice lady versus Indian killer



中 € Hogtown

Tree Town

Hogtown-the city's name, pre-General Gaines-is just too cool.

DOWNTOWN

Main Street

Main Street

Comment: Gainesville can't compete with A2's European-style walking and dining culture.

PARKING

de

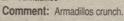
Painfully prompt meter enforcement Terrible on campus; no problem downtown

Comment: Gainesville has fewer and cheaper

DISTINCTIVE ROAD KILL



Armadillos







A Tale of Two Cities

Thas one, but no scheduled service

Served by major airlines, but only if you want to go to Atlanta or Charlotte

Detroit Metro is just thirty miles away. You've got to go 100 miles from Gainesville to find more than two gates

NEWSPAPER

Ann Arbor News

Œ Gainesville Sun

Comment:

The Sun has more sports, more world news, fewer typos. The News has "Deaths Elsewhere." A2 also has the Observer and the Detroit papers



HIGH-PROFILE BUSINESS

Borders and Domino's

QUESTIONABLE LAW

Exactech (artificial hips and knees) and Bear Archery Name recognition counts, and Domino's



Comment:

\$25 pot fine

Requirement that all artists pay the city \$100 for a license

Comment: Both are hard to enforce, but the art tax discourages creativity.

PAINS IN THE ASS



Potholes and road construction

Love bugs copulating in flight as they smash into your car

Comment: Love bugs have a shorter season and do less damage to cars.

LOCAL POLITICS

Democrats currently in power

Democrats in power—"Are you kidding? This is a university town!

Comment:

Power balance has little impact on daily life-which is just how both towns like it

NATIONAL POLITICIANS



Gerald Ford

Connie Mack and Lawton Chiles (U.S. senators) Comment: Rank counts

Œ

John Norman Collins Danny Harold Rolling

SERIAL KILLER

Rolling confessed.

FOOTBALL ARENA



The Big House holds 107,501 fans, but they're often indifferent to the game

At the Swamp fans stand and scream when it's third and ten in the fourth quarter with the Gators leading 52-3

Comment:

FOOTBALL COACH

9 Lloyd Carr

E Steve Spurrier

Comment: Carr's a gentleman; Spurrier's prone to whining tantrums.

OUT-OF-STATE RIVAL



Ohio State

D E University of Georgia

The Gators-Dawgs rivalry is so intense the game is played on neutral turf in

IN-STATE RIVAL

Michigan State-fans sometimes paint each other's mascots and say mean thinas

Florida State—FSU fans reportedly once nudged a UF fan off the back of the stadium, where he fell two stories to

Comment: U-M snobs belittle Moo U; UF scorns deeper in the South.

SELF-APPOINTED CHEERLEADER

Superfan-a guy in a cape who beats a cowbell with a drumstick

Mr. Two Bits-an old guy who blows a whistle, holds up his 2 Bits sign, and leads the "Two bits, four bits, six bits, a dollar" cheer

Mr. Two Bits is better known, better Comment: organized, and better dressed.





HOMECOMING PEP

Mud Bowl

Gator Growl draws 80,000 screaming fans to the Swamp the night before the game. Every school in town-and virtually every store—closes for the homecoming parade. Really

Comment:

Mud wrestling is eclipsed by the Growl's star power: past headliners include Bob Hope and Robin Williams.

OBNOXIOUS CHEER



"Bullshit!"

Gator Chomp The Chomp looks even dumber than Atlanta's Tomahawk Chop.

HOOPS

Ongoing scandals

"Billyball" took UF to the NCAA finals, with fanatical Rowdy Reptiles in the

stands Comment: A sad story for Ann Arbor.

OTHER SPORTS



Women's volleyball, soccer, and gymnastics; all women's volleyball games broadcast on the radio

Comment:

U-M hockey is the only sport with fans who approach Gator frenzy.

Flannel shirts from Abercrombie &

Gatornationals drag racing championships, Speeds over 300 miles per hour! 100,000 fans! In the city!

Yee haw! Comment:

HEART OF CAMPUS



Plaza of the Americas

Comment:

Florida's entry sounds like a mall—though it does feature Brother Jed, a Baptist minister who likes to yell out, 'You, ma'am, are a fornicator!

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

9 Hash Bash

E

Hemp Fest Hash Bash came first, but high school kids have taken over. Hemp Fest is growing.

STUDENT WATERING HOLE

Blind Pig—great music

Purple Porpoise formerly allowed students to tank up at halftime and reenter the Swamp

Comment: Music rules



LAST NIGHT OF FINALS

4

Pub Crawl—tickets offer unlimited drinks at all participating bars

Getting drunk is juvenile, gross, and

COFFEE SHOPS

less fun for spectators.

9 E Three

Comment: Gainesville uses football in place of caffeine.

ETHNIC RESTAURANTS

Ninety-four, not counting fast food and pizza

Thirty-two, with same exclusions; more Cuban food than Ann Arbor, but less Middle Eastern and Asian

Comment: More is more

ECCENTRIC EATERY



Blimpy Burger, where the T-shirt reads "Cheaper than Food" Burrito Brothers, where a cook was

seen wiping her armpits with a napkin Comment: Pick 'em.















Where there is light snow or ice on road surfaces, the City's Public Services Department clears over 94 miles of high volume streets, bridges, intersections with stop signs or traffic signals, and streets with curves. De-icing materials are applied to provide better traction for vehicles to help prevent accidents at high-risk locations. The street clearing process takes about five hours and may be repeated as needed. After the major and high-risk streets are cleared, City crews de-ice the local streets in the City, which requires ten to twelve hours.

When a snowfall of four inches or more occurs, street snow plowing begins. At this point a number of City departments become involved, supplementing the Public Services Department's equipment and operators. While the Public Services Department crews clear the major streets, Parks and Recreation and Utilities Department's crews begin working on the residential streets. Plowing is done on all public streets and City-owned property; however, all schools and privately owned areas provide for their own de-icing and plowing. Citizens are advised to remove cars from curbside parking to allow for effective street plowing.

The City developed a high need snow removal plan to further define the responsibility of the various departments when the snow removal operation moves into a high need situation. High need is described as any urgent situation which requires personnel and/or equipment which exceeds what is available within the department that is primarily responsible to address the service.

The City Administrator may declare a "snow emergency" during a severe winter storm. During a snow emergency, special parking restrictions go into effect for all streets in the city. Illegally parked vehicles will be towed and impounded.

Where street parking is normally permitted, restrictions go into effect to allow curbside access to City crews to clear the street surfaces:

- * On even-numbered days, vehicles may not park on the evennumbered sides of these streets in order to allow plows to clear the even-numbered side of the street. Parking is permitted on the side of the street with odd-numbered addresses. After the street has been plowed, normal parking may be resumed on both sides of the street.
- * On odd-numbered days, vehicles may not park on the odd-numbered sides of these streets in order to allow plows to clear the odd-numbered sides of the street. Parking is permitted on the side of the street with even-numbered addresses. After the street has been plowed, normal parking may be resumed on both sides of the street.
- * Designated snow emergency routes must be kept clear of parked vehicles at all times during the snow emergency.

The City snow desk is staffed during snow emergencies. The snow desk tracks the location of plows throughout the City and provides information to the public about the plowing progress. You may reach the snow desk at 994-2359.

SIDEWALKS

When there is a snow event in Ann Arbor, the City depends on its citizens to be helpful, responsible, and aware of the need to remove all snow and ice from the public sidewalks

During the winter months, many Ann Arbor residents (including children walking to school and the physically challenged) need to be able to safely use the public sidewalks. This means that all snow and ice should be removed from the entire constructed width of the public sidewalk. This enables people of all ages and physical conditions to have access to clean pedestrian walkways. City council has passed an ordinance regarding snow removal (violations can result in fines up to \$500), but reminds you that sidewalk snow removal is simply a combination of courtesy and caring toward all those who need to use the public side-

The City reminds owners or occupants of non-residentially zoned properties that all snow and ice which has accumulated on the adjacent public sidewalk prior to 6am must be removed by noon. Immediately after the accumulation of ice on such a sidewalk it must be treated with sand, salt or other substance to prevent it from being slippery. Within 24 hours after the end of each accumulation of snow greater than 1 inch, the owner or occupant of every residentially • zoned property must remove the accumulation from the adjacent public sidewalk. Remember, accumulation can occur from any source including precipitation and drifting. Ice must be treated as mentioned above and removed within 24 hours after accumulation. Last but certainly not least, please exercise caution and care when shoveling, especially during extreme cold.

Best Wishes for a Safe and Happy Winter Season from the City of Ann Arbor

Please save for reference throughout the snow months.

Tale of Two Cities continued

CULT SANDWICH SHOP

Zingerman's Joe's Deli

Comment: No contest. Joe's has dry white-bread toast and nothing to drink.

QUESTIONABLE QUISINE

Sushi

Boiled green peanuts

Comment: Pick 'em

BEVERAGE OF CHOICE

Cappuccino Gatorade

Comment: The Gators invented theirs.

ADULT CANDY STORE

Œ

Big Ten

Wine and Cheese Gallery The Big Ten has more variety and is Comment:

FARMERS' MARKET

Ann Arbor Farmers' Market

1 Gainesville Farmers' Market

Comment: Gainesville's seems staged. Ann Arbor's is a stage.

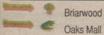
STRIP MALL AXIS

- C

Washtenaw Avenue Archer Road

Comment:

Archer has more and bigger strip malls and fewer traffic tie-ups.



Briarwood

Comment: Same old same old.

Borders: B&N Borders; B&N

Comment: But Ann Arbor has the HQ.

BELOVED INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORE

Shaman Drum

Goerings—separate stores for textbooks and trade books

Comment: Both are excellent, but the Drum has a wider variety of academic books and more poetry.

BELOVED USED-BOOK RETAILER

West Side Book Shop æ

Books, Inc. Comment:

Books, Inc., has a vegetarian restaurant on the premises, but West Side has

HOME BUYERS' WORRIES

E Roaches and termites

High prices and wet basements

Comment: You can hire a pest control service.

GARAGE SALES

Thursday through Sunday, leisurely, exercise equipment, books

Saturday morning only, but it's a fullcontact sport, possibly related to football frenzy, exercise equipment, few books

Comment: Better workout in Gainesville; better results in Ann Arbor.

DESTINATION ANTIQUES MARKET

Ann Arbor Antiques Market in Saline

Reninger's in Mount Dora Reninger's is bigger and cheaperbut Mount Dora is 100 miles away.

ART FAIR

Ann Arbor Art Fairs

Comment:

Comment:

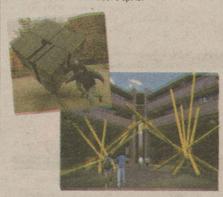
Gainesville spring and fall art festivals

The weather's better in Gainesville, but A2 has better quality, quantity, and people-watching.

LARGE MODERN OUTDOOR SCULPTURE

The Cube French Fries

Comment: Ann Arbor's spins.



NEARBY CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS

Detroit Symphony; Detroit Institute of

Hmmmm . . . Disney World?

Comment: Pretty tough call.

BOOBS FOR RUBES



Déjà Vu

Café Risqué

Café Risqué is open twenty-four hours.

COLORFUL LOCAL MUSICIANS



Madcat Ruth: Mr. B

Sister Hazel; Less than Jake

Comment: Ann Arbor's virtuoso talent beats Gainesville's national audience.

ROCK LEGENDS



Bob Seger and Iggy Pop Tom Petty and Bo Diddley

Comment: All great, but Bo rules.





MORNING RADIO PERSONALITIES



Been-there-forever Ted Heusel of WAAM

Lex and Terry, who once had a nurse give step-by-step instructions to a caller giving herself an enema

Comment:

Unless you are fond of gross-outs and sexist jock talk, stick with tradition.

PUBLIC RADIO

WUOM, WEMU, WDET, WKAR, CBE, and so on

Comment:

There's no jazz in Gainesville, and CBC fills Ann Arbor's classical music gap.

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Tale of Two Cities continued

ALTERNATIVE THEATER

The Hippodrome—though its movies and location in a restored building make it more like the Michigan Theater

Comment: The Hippodrome is less alternative (Macbeth, A Christmas Carol).

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS

Community High and Roberto Clemente

P. K. Yonge (a UF lab school like the old U High—but with a football team); A. Quinn Jones (like Clemente); Loften High School (for students struggling academically)

Comment:

Gainesville has more options but no haven for body piercing, baggy clothes, weird hair, and the arts. And SAT scores are higher at Commie High.

TRADITION-BOUND HIGH SCHOOL

Pioneer (purple and white) Pioneers

Gainesville High School (purple and white) Purple Hurricanes

Funkier nickname prevails Comment:

NEWER HIGH SCHOOL

Huron (green and gold) River Rats Buchholz (orange and green) Bobcats

Funkier nickname prevails. Comment:

KNOW-IT-ALL NEIGHBORHOOD

Burns Park

4 The Duck Ponds

Comment: Duck Ponds real estate values are less inflated.

WEIRDLY NAMED NEARBY TOWN

Yosilanti **Waldo**

Comment: The names are equally striking, but Yosilanti has that distinctive water tower.

OTHER NEARBY TOWNS

Chelsea, Dexter Archer, Alachua

Rural Florida is Deliverance but without Comment: the river or banjos. Chelsea has the Purple Rose Theater.

THE WILD NORTH

The U.P. 49 Georgia

You seen Deliverance? Comment:

NEARBY GLIMPSE OF UNREALITY

Detroit

Disney World Comment: Casinos versus Mickey.

NEARBY FOREIGN PLACE

4 Canada Key West

Okay, you don't pass through customs Comment: when you go to Key West

PREVAILING SKY COLOR

Gray € Blue

Comment: Go natural blue!

DOMINANT REGIONAL INFLUENCE

The auto industry E

Insects

Comment: The auto industry hires more people, but insects have more young

CLIMATE FEATURE

Michigan winters

Florida summers

In Michigan winters more people go Comment: outdoors-and there are fewer bugs

DRAMATIC WEATHER

Blizzards

Hurricanes

Comment: Hurricanes don't leave anything to

DUMB SAYING

"You suck" (as in "Hey-you suck")

"Fixin' to" (as in "I'm fixin' to go to the game") and "might coulda" (as in "We might coulda won")

Comment: All of them suck.

FIRST QUESTION AFTER INTRODUCTION

"What do you do?" "Where are y'all from?"

Comment: Gainesville's is not posed to establish

a pecking order.

CAMPUS NATURE PRESERVE

The Arb

Lake Alice

Comment: Walking of dogs near Lake Alice is not encouraged: they can turn into snacks

for the resident gators.

INTERESTING SWIMMING HAZARD

Swimmer's itch Alligators

Comment: No contest here.

INTERESTING GOLFING HAZARD

Canada geese Alligators

Comment: No contest here either.



JNTERESTING YARD PESTS

Deer and groundhogs Alligators

Comment: Carnivores rule!

The final score Ann Arbor 39, Gainesville 29, tie 5.



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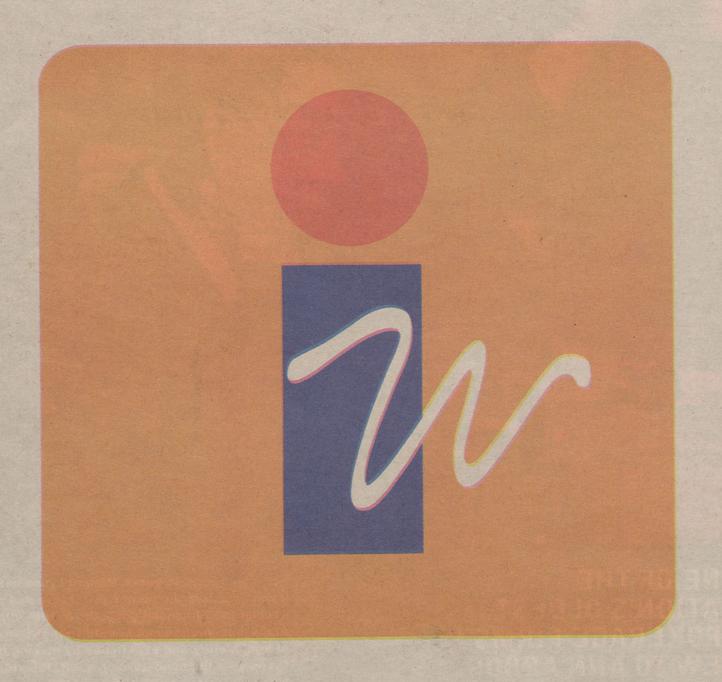
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washtenaw county government web site

it's more than you think

54 ANN ARBOR OBSERVER December 2000

he U-M's Clements Library recently received a very rare 1825 map: one of the few remaining copies of Orange Risdon's map of southeast Michigan. "It is the first map of Michigan that shows serious surveying and settlement," explains Brian Leigh Dunnigan, the library's curator of maps. Risdon, best known in this area as the founder of Saline, is also famous in Michigan history as the chief surveyor of the Detroit-Chicago Road, now US-12.

Though Risdon's surveys were done under government contract, the map was a private venture. Risdon drew it himself and paid to have it published, planning to sell copies to pioneers trying to pick out places to settle. Unfortunately for him, a former employee came out with a competing map and grabbed most of the market. But though it failed to make its creator rich, Risdon's map today gives us a wealth of information about what our area looked like just one year after Ann Arbor was founded.

Officially called "Map of the Surveyed Part of the Territory of Michigan," it measures fortythree by twenty-nine inches. It shows the area from Toledo north to Saginaw Bay and includes Washtenaw County and a corner of Jackson County.

Surveyors hired by the federal government started working in southeast Michigan when it was still a territory in 1818,

since precise demarcation was a necessary prelude to selling the land. They divided the state into counties. the counties into six-mile-square townships, and the townships into square-mile (640-acre) sections. The grid allowed buyers, when they went to the land office to buy land, to clearly identify their purchase.

Although a few intrepid settlers came earlier, serious settlement in Washtenaw County did not begin until the 1820s. Ypsilanti was founded in 1823 or 1825, depending on how the city is defined. Ann Arbor, Dexter, and Dixboro were all founded in 1824.

The Risdon map, although strictly a factual document, reveals two historic transitions, one long past at the time it was published, the other still to come. The long, narrow lots Risdon mapped along the rivers in Detroit and Monroe were legacies of the French who were the state's first

The First Settlement

Orange Risdon's 1825 map captured Michigan in its infancy.



white inhabitants. "They all had access to the water," explains Dunnigan.

Risdon's map also shows Toledo, then called Port Lawrence, as part of Michigan. Though it was indeed within Michigan Territory as defined by Congress, Ohio made a strong claim, and the issue was further muddied by years of contested surveys. The conflict briefly turned violent in the "Toledo War" of 1835 and would not finally be settled until 1836, when Michigan accepted a federal ultimatum to cede the city to Ohio in exchange for the Upper Peninsula.

The handful of roads shown all lead from Detroit to surrounding towns: one to Saginaw (now Woodward Avenue) and one to Port Huron (now Gratiot Avenue), as well as the road to present-day Chicago. Tepees mark the location of Indian settlements, but there are none in Washtenaw County (the closest ones are in Macon and Wyandotte). Near Detroit, Hamtramck has already been established; Dearborn also is there, but not under that name-Risdon calls it Bucklin.

The Washtenaw County shown on the map is larger than it is today, because it includes two townships that are now part of Jackson County. Ann Arbor is spelled "Ann Arbour," which is how founders John Allen and Elisha Rumsey spelled it when they platted their 640-acre parcel the year before. Dixboro is also spelled the old-fashioned way, "Dixborough." All of the county's townships, with the exception of present-day Lyndon Township, are sectioned off, but none is yet named.

The map contains practical information for would-be settlers, such as the location of inns and where to register land purchases. In Washtenaw County, the only inn outside of the towns was labeled Sutton, in today's Northfield Township. Settlers had to go to Detroit to buy property in Washtenaw County, except for those acquiring land in the southern tier of townships-today's Manchester, Bridgewater, Saline, York, and Augusta-who were directed to Monroe.

Only five settlements are shown in Washtenaw County: besides Ann Arbour, Dixborough, and Dexter there are Ypsilanti and Woodruff's Grove. Showing the last two as separate places adds fuel to a continuing debate between Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti over which was settled first. It is clear that Ann Arbor was founded in 1824 and Ypsilanti in 1825-but Woodruff's Grove was founded in 1823, and it was later absorbed by Ypsilanti. Saline is not shown on the map; by the time Risdon drew it he had bought the land for his own settlement, but he would not get around to laying out the town until 1832.

The only marking is a salt spring nearby.

range Ris-

don was particularwell ly qualified to make this map, being both a trained surveyor and an early Michigan settler. Risdon was born in 1786 in Vermont and moved with his family to Saratoga County, in eastern New York, when he was three. He attended local schools until age thirteen. Afterward, according to the 1881 Chapman History of Washtenaw County, Michigan, 'he was dependent on his own efforts."

Risdon studied surveying under a Mr. Rice of Ballston Spa, New York. In 1807, when he was twenty-one, Risdon got a job assisting the noted surveyor Elisha Johnson, who had a contract to survey 100,000

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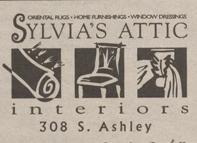
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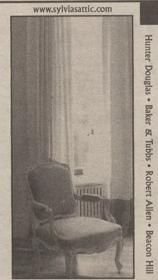
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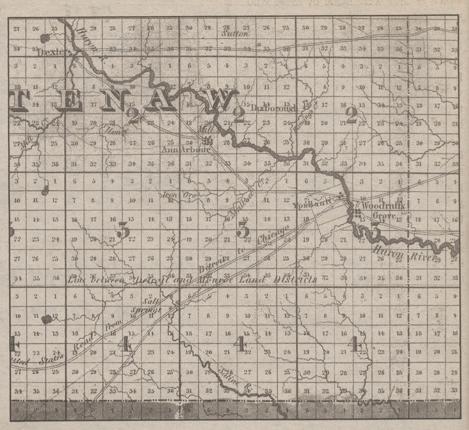
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The First Settlement continued



The area from Ypsilanti to Dexter as it appeared on the 1825 map. Land buyers used the section numbers to register their purchases.

acres in the new counties of Allegany and Genesee. "His duty was to carry the chain, for which he was to receive \$16 per month, but scarcely a week had passed when his skill in surveying was discovered, and with the consent of the land agent, the work was divided, and his wages increased to about five times the amount of the first stipulation," says the county history. Two years later Risdon was hired to assist in laying out the infant cities of Lockport, Brockport, and Buffalo.

During the War of 1812 he worked for the federal government as an assistant surveyor. After the war he met Sally Newland, and the couple married in 1816. Risdon bought land with his earnings, eventually owning 1,000 acres on New York's Genesee River. Risdon resolved to move to Michigan Territory after suffering losses in the 1817 commercial crisis, but he did not arrive in Michigan until 1823, when he spent a month traveling on foot through Washtenaw and other nearby counties. He returned the next year, this time spending four months on a 2,000mile exploring trip on horseback with Samuel Dexter. After their trip Dexter bought land on Mill Creek, just off the Huron River, and began the work of establishing the village that bears his name. Risdon bought 160 acres on the Saline River and the Indian trail that what would soon become the Detroit-Chicago Road, land that would later be the nucleus of the

How Risdon and Dexter met is lost to history. They could have known each other from New York, since Risdon's parents still lived in Sarasota County and Dexter resided in Athens, two counties south, or they may have met while traveling.

Their backgrounds were very different: Risdon was six years older and had been supporting himself since he was thirteen, while Dexter had both a bachelor's and a master's degree from Harvard. (Dexter's father had served in the cabinets of both Adams and Jefferson.) But both have gone down in history as town founders who went well beyond land speculation and worked to improve their towns. They both offered free land to any church wishing to get established, and they were both abolitionists who were rumored to be part of the Underground Railroad. It is easy to imagine that they discussed these issues during their long hours of travel together.

isdon's reputation as a surveyor followed him to Michigan, and in the same year he bought his land he was hired to direct a survev for a road connecting Detroit and Pontiac. In fall 1824, when he must have been almost done surveying for the season, he began work on his map. From his two exploring trips, plus his surveying work, Risdon would have known much of the area firsthand, and for the rest he could rely on work done on earlier surveys.

Risdon advertised in the Detroit Gazette on October 1, 1824, seeking advance subscriptions to pay for the cost of producing the map. He promised that "the work will be put into the hands of the engraver as soon as a sufficient number of subscribers is obtained to warrant the expense of publication."

The ad pitched the map as useful to emigrants and explorers: "The first thing necessary to an immigrant is a general knowledge of the surveyed portion of the territory, of the course of its streams and the relative situation of its different parts. The publisher, having spent some time in exploring that junction of the territory embraced in his map, will be enabled to lo-

56 ANN ARBOR OBSERVER December 2000

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cate the most important Indian paths, which as they were made by those who were acquainted with every part of the country will be an important guide in the future location of our roads." Risdon promised that the map also would include Indian reservations and villages and would "embrace the lines of counties, townships, and sections, regularly numbered according to the surveys."

Although the mapping of Michigan had been going on for six years, settlement had been slow, both because Michigan was off the beaten path (easterners going west overland were more likely to pass through Ohio and Indiana) and because the territory was rumored to be all swamp. The first problem would be solved a year later when the Erie Canal opened, making it easy for easterners to

"The country which was formerly believed to be uninhabitable excepting on the river and lake shores, abounds in lands of the most fertile and bealthy description." Even the climate, Risdon claimed, "is particularly adapted to our eastern constitution."

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reach Buffalo, where they could board a Lake Erie steamboat for Detroit. Risdon addressed the swamp story head-on in his ad: "The country which was formerly believed to be uninhabitable excepting on the river and lake shores, abounds in lands of the most fertile and healthy description." Even the climate, he claimed, "is particularly adapted to our eastern consti-

The maps were to be "engraved in an elegant style and published on Super Royal paper." Risdon offered his map in three formats: in two sheets that could be stored flat in a drawer, for \$2.50; cut into twenty-four sections and pasted on linen-so that the map could be folded without losing detail—and supplied with a leather carrying case, for \$3; or varnished on rollers, perfect for land agents and lawyers who would be consulting it in their offices, also for \$3. The Clements Library's copy is of the last type.

The next year, 1825, Risdon started the job for which he is most famous: chief surveyor for the great military road from Detroit to Chicago, today known as Michigan Avenue or US-12. Work on the survey no doubt showed him features to include on the map but left him little time to work on it. He hired a helper named

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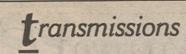
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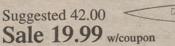
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The First Settlement continued

John Farmer, finished the map, and sent it to Rawdon, Clark, and Company in Albany, New York. On November 13 he paid them \$400 for engraving the two copper plates. Five weeks later he paid to have 472 copies printed. After printing, each copy was hand painted. By the time they were ready to deliver, however, winter had shut down shipping on Lake Erie. Risdon's subscribers had to wait until May 1826 for an announcement in the Detroit Gazette that their copies were ready.

That delay proved fatal to the map's commercial prospects. Later in the summer of 1826, Farmer published his own rival map. It was basically the same as Risdon's but with added details that had been learned in the interim. Farmer's map, being more up to date, overshadowed his employer's. "It was bad luck that Orange didn't get the map in time to get it promptly to the subscribers," says Brian Dunnigan. By examining both maps, Dunnigan can tell that Farmer had probably done most of the hand coloring on Risdon's map. "John Farmer dominates after this- he becomes 'the'

Michigan mapmaker," says Dunnigan. "He is probably the best-known Michigan mapmaker of the nineteenth century."

Risdon moved on from the failure of his map, earning a good living as a surveyor. He surveved at least seventy-five townships and the city of Saginaw, and he reexamined or resurveyed forty-five more townships. He continued working for the government until 1856, when he was seventy.

By then his own village was well established. In 1829 Risdon had returned to his property south of Ann Arbor and built a twelve-room house on a hill overlooking his Detroit-Chicago Road. He brought his family out from New York and began building up his new town. His house was used as Saline's first inn, post office, general store, and polling place. Risdon himself served as postmaster and magistrate, officiating at the first marriage in the township. After Michigan became a state in 1837, he was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives.

Risdon's "advice was often sought in the selection of lands," the county history records. "Very many miles were traveled by him to point out desirable locations, yet [he was] ever unwilling to receive a reward." Although there is no evidence that he made any other maps, his contemporaries knew of his pioneering effort. L. D. Norris, in an address to the Washtenaw County Historical Society in 1874, said,

"The first general map of the surveyed part of this territory of which I have any knowledge was published in 1825 by Orange Risdon, then and now a pioneer of Washtenaw."

Risdon died in 1876 at age ninety, a well-regarded member of the community. "He was genial in his disposition, unselfish, benevolent, and liberal almost to a fault," said the county history. At his funeral, "great numbers of people from neighboring towns and cities were in attendance." His home passed to his daughter after his death. In 1948 the house was moved to Henry Street to make room for expansion of Oakwood Cemetery. Still standing, it has been divided into apart-

he Clements copy of Risdon's map was a gift from the Michigan Map Society, purchased to honor Frank Kerwin, a founding member of the society who recently died. The Michigan Map Society meets at the Clements and works closely with the library, so members knew that although the Clements

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employer's.

had a large collection of Great Lakes maps, it was missing this very important one. Since Kerwin, a Grosse Pointe resident and sailor, was himself a collector of Great Lakes maps, the Risdon map, a copy of which had gone on the market, seemed à logical choice. Of the 472 copies originally printed, only thirteen are known to have survived. Kerwin lived long enough to learn of the purchase but died before the formal presentation last May.

The map society has about seventy members; most are from the Ann Arbor and Detroit areas, but some come from more distant places, such as Lansing and Grand Rapids. Although mostly amateurs, they are a very knowledgeable group; many are serious map collectors. Several of them volunteer their expertise to help the Clements staff. They meet four times a year to hear map-related lectures; last fall they got an advance look at images from Dunnigan's forthcoming book, Frontier Metropolis: Picturing Early Detroit, 1701-1838, to be published in April 2001.

Since the Clements is a research library, people cannot just come in and casually look at Risdon's map. "Serious researchers may study the map once they have completed our reader registration process, which is relatively simple," explains Dunnigan. The map itself will also be exhibited from time to time, but at the moment, no public exhibition is scheduled.

E TOWN LOG - December 2,000 A Monthly Calendar Listing of City of Ann Arbor Government Events

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

Winter Taxes Due - Taxes are due December 1, 2000 payable during the month of December without penalty. During the month of December, your tax bill may be paid at the following banks: Ann Arbor Commerce Bank, Bank of Ann Arbor, Michigan National Bank, Republic Bank, TCF Bank, Standard Federal. The City of Ann Arbor Treasurer's Office will close at 12:00 p.m. Friday, December 22, 2000 and will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, December 29, 2000. In addition, there is a 24-hour payment drop box located at City Hall for your convenience.

9:30am-11:00am - Blood Pressure & Cholesterol Screening: Free. Bryant Community Center, 3 W. Eden Court, Ann Arbor.

7:00pm - Christmas Caroling through Historic Downtown Ann Arbor: Free. The Salvation Army Band leads the way: Refreshments served afterwards. Meet at the Kempf House. 734.994.4898.



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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

1:00pm -4:00pm - German Family Christmas: Observe a traditional turn-of-the-century German Christmas, 312 S. Division St. Fee: \$1, 734,994,4898.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

1:00pm -4:00pm - German Family Christmas: Observe a traditional turn-of-the-century German Christmas, 312 S. Division St.

1:00pm-3:00pm - Gift Making and Tea: Create greeting cards, ornaments, holiday decorations and treasures. Children under 10 years old must be accompanied by an adult. Tea and other beverages will be available. Cobblestone Farm, 2781 Packard Rd. Fee: S7/person. 734.994.2928.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

7:30am -9:00am - Dean Fund Committee Meeting (Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation): 415 W. Washington St., Board Room. 734.996.3081.

7:00pm - Cobblestone Farm Association Meeting (Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation): Cobblestone Farm Center, The Barn, 2781 Packard Rd. 734 994 2928

7:30pm - City Council Meeting: 2nd Floor Council Chambers, City Hall, 100 N. Fifth Ave. Live gavel-to-gavel coverage on Cable Channel 16 provided by CTN. Replays: Tuesday, 12/5 at 1:30 p.m. and Friday, 12/8 at 7:30 p.m.



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

7:00pm - Planning Commission Meeting: 2nd Floor Council Chambers, City Hall, 100 N. Fifth Ave. Live, gavel-to-gavel coverage on Cable Channel 16 provided by CTN. Replays: Thursday, 12/7 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, 12/10 at 2:00 p.m.



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

3:00pm - Huron Street Homeless Facility Impact Study Meeting: Community Development Department, City Center Building, 220 E.

4:00pm-5:45pm - Buhrrr Blasts. Kids enjoy special activities at the Buhr Park Outdoor Ice Rink, 2751 Packard Rd. Fee: \$3/adult; \$2.50/youths and seniors. Skate rental: \$2. 734.971.3228.

6:30 p.m. - Dexter H.S. Hockey: Veterans Memorial Indoor Ice Arena, 2150 Jackson Rd. Admission to be announced. 734.761.7240. 7:00 p.m. - Affordable Housing Subcommittee Meeting (#4): 4th Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 100 N. Fifth Ave. Call Wendy Rampson at 734.994.2802 for more info.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

9:00am - Housing Policy Board Meeting: Community Development Department, City Center Building, 220 E. Huron - 3rd Floor.

1:00pm-2:30pm - Crafty Kids - A Tyke Program: Children ages 4-5 hike the woods to gather craft supplies to make winter decorations or gifts. Fee: \$27/residents; \$32/non-residents. (Covers three sessions -Dec. 7, 14, & 21.) Pre-registration required. 734.662.7802.

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - State Street Area Improvements Project Community Meeting: Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

9:30am-11:30am - Tiny Tots Tea Time: Kids ages 1-3 years old accompanied by a caregiver. 2 hours of fun-filled, hands-on nature activities. Fee: \$5/child (resident); \$6/child (non-resident). 734.662.7802.



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

9:00am - Huron Hills Cross Country Ski Center Opens (Weather Permitting). 734.971.6840.

10:00am-12:00pm - MRF Open House: Make laminated, magnetic wipeoff boards and tour the City's recycling operations. Drop-ins welcome. 4150

2:30pm-4:30pm - Skate with Santa: Parents don't forget your cameras! Buhr Park Outdoor Ice Rink, 2751 Packard Rd. Fee: \$3/adults; \$2.50/youths & seniors. Skate rental: \$2.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

1:00pm-4:00pm German Family Christmas: See December 2.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

Time To Be Determined - Holiday Gingerbread House: Families build gingerbread houses. Fee: \$26/house. Must pre-register. Bryant Community Center, 3 W. Eden Court. 734.994.2722.

12:00pm - New Petition Filing Deadline: Planning Department, 6th Floor, City Hall, 100 N. Fifth Ave.

5:30pm - CDBG Executive Committee Meeting: Community Development Department, City Center Building, 220 E. Huron - 3rd. Floor.

7:00-8:30pm - Sanitary Sewer Overflow Prevention Study Public Workshop (#4) - Dartmoor Neighborhood: Eberwhite Elementary School, Auditorium.

7:00pm - Community Television Network's Preview Session: Learn about community media and tour the CTN television studio. Precursor to taking the free production training workshops. Open to all Ann Arbor residents and non-profit organizations. Call to sign-up: 734.769.7422.



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

3:00-5:00pm - MRF Open House. See December 9. 7:00-8:30pm - Sanitary Sewer Overflow Prevention Study Public Workshop (#4) - Glen Leven and Morehead Neighborhoods: Washtenaw Intermediate School District (Vogel Rm. B)



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Tentative: Northeast Area Plan Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting. Contact City of Ann Arbor Planning Department for info: 734.994.2800. 4:00pm-5:45pm Buhrrr Blasts - See December 6.

7:00pm - Ann Arbor Board of Education Meeting. 4th Floor, Ann Arbor District Library, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Live gavel-to-gavel coverage on Cable Channel 16 provided by Community Television Network. Replays: Thursday, 12/14 at 1:30 p.m.; Saturday, 12/16 at 9:00 a.m.; and Sunday, 12/17 at 2:00 p.m.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

4:00pm-6:00pm - Youth December Fest: Elementary aged children enjoy games and holiday music and feast on goodies. Coordinated by the Huron Valley Girl Scout Troop #253. Free. Call to register. 734.994.2722. 5:30pm - Energy Commission Meeting: 4th Floor Transportation Workroom,

6:00pm-8:00pm - Santa Live on CTN: Kids Call In and Talk with Santa, Mrs. Claus, and Elf! Live on CTN Cable Channel 17. CTN beams in Santa from the North Pole via the Santa Satellite Network. For information, call 734.769.7422. (To talk with Santa, call the CTN Studio Line at 734.997.1050 that evening only.)

6:30pm - City Bicycle Coordinating Committee: 4th Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 100 N. Fifth Ave.

7:00-8:30pm - Sanitary Sewer Overflow Prevention Study Public Workshop (#4) - Bromley and Orchard Hills Neighborhoods: Clague Middle School Media Center. 7:30pm - Historic District Commission Meeting: 2nd Floor Council Chambers, City Hall, 100 N. Fifth Ave. Live gavel-to-gavel coverage on CTN Cable Channel 16 provided by Community Television Network. Replays: Friday, 12/15 at 1:30 p.m.; Sunday, 12/17 at 9:00 p.m.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

12:00pm-1:30pm - Bryant Volunteer Awards: Celebrate the accomplishments of outstanding community volunteers. Bryant Community Center, 3 W. Eden Court. RSVP by December 11. 734.994.2722. 7:45pm - Holiday High School Hockey Tournament: Dexter, Ypsi Lincoln, Saline and Chelsea High Schools compete for honors. Admission: \$4.25/adults; \$3.50/youths & seniors. Veterans Memorial Park Indoor Ice Arena, 2150 Jackson Rd



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

7:00pm - Holiday High School Hockey Tournament: See December 15.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 Times To Be Determined - School Break Skating: Buhr Park

Outdoor Ice Rink, 2751 Packard Rd. All ages. For a complete schedule of times and fees, call 734.971.3228. Offered through January 1.

1:00pm-2:50pm - Santa On Ice: Veterans Memorial Park Indoor Ice Arena, 2150 Jackson Rd. Fee: \$4.25/adults; \$3.50/youths/seniors. Skate rental available 734 761 7240

2:00pm-4:30pm - Family Dance Series: Squares, contras, and other country dances. Families and children welcome! No experience necessary. Admission: \$6 /person or \$10/family. 734.994.2928. Cobblestone Farm. 2781 Packard Rd.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

4:00pm - Park Advisory Commission Meeting: Gallup Park Meeting Room, 3000 Fuller,

7:30pm - City Council Meeting: 2nd Floor Council Chambers, City Hall., 100 N. Fifth Ave. Live gavel-to-gavel coverage on Cable Channel 16 provided by CTN. Replays: Tuesday, 12/19 at 1:30 p.m. and Friday, 12/22 at 7:30 p.m.



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:00pm - Planning Commission Meeting: 2nd Floor Council Chambers, City Hall., 100 N. Fifth Ave. Live, gavel-to-gavel coverage on Cable Channel 16 provided by CTN. Replays: Wednesday, 12/20 at 1:30 p.m. and Thursday, 12/21 at 7:30 p.m.



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

2:00pm - Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting: 2nd Floor Council Chambers, City Hall. Live coverage CTN Cable Channel 16. Replays: Thur., 12/21 at 1:30 p.m.

6:00pm - Housing Commission Board Meeting: Miller Manor Community Room, 727 Miller Ave.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

4:00pm-6:00pm - Farmer's Market Commission Meeting: Market Office, 315 Detroit St. 734.994.2780.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:00am-12:00pm City Hall Closes at 12:00 p.m. for the Holiday.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

7:00pm-9:00pm - Enchanted Winter Solstice: Celebrate the longest night of the year by listening to traditional stories around a fire. Dress warmly. Fee: \$5/resident; \$6/non-resident; \$20/family (resident); \$24/family (non-resident). All ages. Pre-register. 734.662.7802.



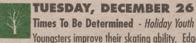
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

11:00am-1:00pm - Marathon Skate: Adults skate from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and all ages skate from 1-5 p.m. Fee: \$4.25/adults; \$3.50/youths & seniors. Veterans Memorial Park Indoor Ice Arena, Jackson and Maple Roads. 734.761.7240.



MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

All Day - City Hall Closed for the Holiday. No refuse or recycling routes collected today. Routes will be picked up one day later during this holiday week.



Times To Be Determined - Holiday Youth Power Skating Camp: Youngsters improve their skating ability. Edges, balance, and leg strength. Veterans Memorial Park Indoor Ice Arena, Jackson and Maple Roads. Call for fees and times 734.761.7240. Runs through December 29.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

8:00am-12:00pm - City Hall closes at 12:00 p.m. for the Holiday.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

11:00am-1:00pm - Marathon Skate: Adults skate from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and all ages skate from 1-5 p.m. Fee: \$4.25/adults; \$3.50/youths & seniors. Veterans Memorial Park Indoor Ice Arena, Jackson and Maple Roads. 734.761.7240.

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Holidays Past

Gifts from the past

Depression-era Christmas presents were few and practical

In the years of the Great Depression before World War II, gift giving did not dominate Ann Arbor Christmases as it does today. "You were lucky if you got one present," recalls Bob Ryan of his childhood. "I'd get an orange in my stocking or sometimes an apple. One year I got a sled."

"Presents were primarily clothes," recalls Lois Uhlendorf
McLean. "We'd get practical things; school clothes a sweater wha

things: school clothes, a sweater, what we needed." Though parents bought necessities, sometimes

other rela-



Grace Stevens TerMaat, Brad Stevens, and Mary Stevens Hathaway, Christmas 1937.

would give toys like dolls or trucks. She also recalls that sometimes her dad would buy a new Christmas tree ornament and say it was a gift from the family to the

Harlan Otto remembers looking forward to the hard candy that came in a special box every year from St.

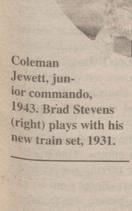
Paul's Church. He also recalls many handmade gifts, such as mittens and socks. "Grandma Zill, it seemed like she could do it in twenty minutes. She'd say, 'Oh, you don't have any mittens.' Zoom, zoom, zoom, she'd make them."

Some parents put a great deal of creativity and resourcefulness into making presents. Otto remembers receiving toys made out of old spools from thread, while Coleman Jewett recalls receiving scooters made out of old skates.

Maybe because presents were such a rarity, people now in their seventies and eighties seem to have remarkable memories of the ones they did get. Otto recalls two very clearly: a flashlight he got from a neighbor, and a steam shovel that his godfather gave him and that he "played with forever."

Rosemarion Blake recalls a life-changing present: "Mrs. Blackburn—she worked at Barbour Gym—thought it necessary for kids to read, so she always gave me a stack of books." As a result of this yearly gift, Blake became an avid reader.

Both Coleman Jewett and John Hath-





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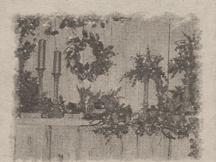
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Holidays Past continued

away recall "little big books," which had pictures on the borders so that when you riffled the pages you saw the figures move. Inexpensive hardcover books, such as adventure stories for boys and Nancy Drew for girls, were other popular presents. A favorite gift with Mary Stevens Hathaway and her siblings was a yearly subscription to Life magazine, given by an aunt and uncle.

Back then toys were powered by imagination, not batteries. Pat Murphy remembers getting a doll in the pre-Barbie days that came with material for miniature clothes that she had to make herself, using a sewing kit that was also included. Jewett remembers getting art supplies, such as watercolor sets or a compass to draw circles.

Erector sets and their cheaper cousin,

Maybe because pres ents were such a rarity, people now in their serenties and eighties seem to have remarkable memories of the ones they did get. Harlan Otto recalls a steam shavel that his godfather gave him and that he "played with forever."

Meccano sets, were a big hit with boys; they could add to their collections each year, as they did with painted tin soldiers. With the days of political correctness still in the future, boys also got more macho presents, such as high-top boots with a slit on the side for a jackknife. Jewett remembers getting cap guns to play cowboys and Indians with; when he was about eleven years old, he got a Red Ryder BB gun, made in Plymouth. Bob Kuhn remembers receiving boxing gloves complete with a punching bag. In contrast, all of the women interviewed remember getting

Al Gallup gets the prize for the most unusual present-a puppy. "One year I got a Manchester terrier we named Boots," he remembers. Boots went on to claim fame after his picture was featured on Scott lawn products distributed nationwide, according to Gallup. Why was Boots so special? "Because he dug dandelions," Gallup says. "He pulled the roots out but didn't eat them. We never knew

-Grace Shackman

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John Hathaway still has the Flexible Flyer his parents bought at Hertler's.

"Watch out! Here I come!"

When kids could sled down city streets all winter long

ledding down the middle of city streets? No parents in their right mind would let their children do that today, but in the 1920s and 1930s it was done with the blessing of the city. Every neighborhood had at least one steep street blocked off for sledding, and often there were several within walking distance.

"Oh, it was fun, really fun," recalls Walter Metzger, who sledded on three such streets: Koch from Third to Main, Division from Packard to Hill, and Eighth from Washington to Liberty. "The city blocked the streets with a big long [saw] horse. They also blocked the side streets, but they'd leave room for the residents to drive through. It was very safe. I never remember anybody having an accident with

Al Gallup, who sledded down Highland and Awixa, recalls that the city brought out a sawhorse at the beginning of the season and left it at the side of the road except when the kids were actually sledding. Hills on Broadway and Felch were popular spots. Bob Ryan, who lived on Longshore, used to sled from the top of his street clear down to Argo Pond and, if possible, right out onto the frozen water. "There was no traffic," he recalls. "The only house was Mr. Saunders's of the canoe livery, and he knew to be careful [when driving]."

If there were no sawhorses, one of the kids would stand guard at potentially dangerous intersections, warning sledders when they needed to stop. Braking was done by dragging feet, swerving onto lawns, or, if all else failed, jumping off just before a collision. Harlan Otto, who used to slide down Koch Street, remembers they didn't necessarily stop even at

Main. "We'd have someone at the bottom [of Koch] to look out. One time we went down and around the corner on Main all the way to Madison."

Flexible Flyers were the sleds of choice because "you could steer them," explains Coleman Jewett. "Others you had to lean on to guide." Brad Stevens recalls that Flexible Flyers came in different lengths: "The longer it was, the more prestigious." John Hathaway recalls that his Flexible Flyer (which he still has hanging in his garage) was purchased at Hertler's, and that as a special deal the Hertler brothers cut him a piece of rope to tie on the front.

"Not many had sleds," recalls Otto, so "we used to ride double. The bigger kids would get on the bottom and the little on top." Kids sometimes went down a hill on a number of sleds chained together, sticking their toes between the opening where the sled was steered. Occasional mishaps occurred, but the victims all lived to tell

Larger groups of kids rode on toboggans and bobsleds, the latter often homemade. Hathaway recalls that the bobsleds went a lot faster and could be dangerous if you left a limb dangling. Jewett says that a family in his neighborhood, the Bakers, had a toboggan that held twelve or fourteen kids. "It was fun. Just don't sit in front or back," he warns.

Sometimes kids would enhance their sledding routes by pouring water in the tracks. Metzger recalls that "Bob Muehlig used to take buckets of water and pour it on the curb to make runs for a bobsled." Ryan remembers pouring water on Longshore in new snow so toboggan tracks would freeze at night. "We'd go like the gun the next morning," he recalls.

The kids would come home sopping wet after sledding. "We all had coal furnaces with registers on the floor. We'd take off our clothes to dry off," Metzger recalls. "The adults hated the cold and snow, but kids loved it," says Jewett. That part is probably the same today.

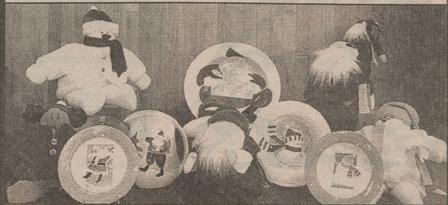
-Grace Shackman

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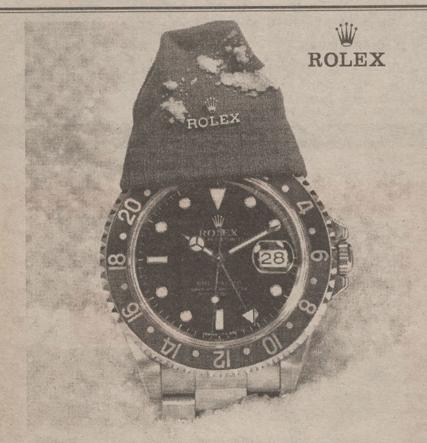
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Some ideas for delightfully unexpected holiday gifts

by Laura McReynolds

have friends whose family members exchange gift lists every year before the holidays. Nobody knows what anybody else wants, so rather than risk buying each other things they don't like or need, they write it all down, and they all get exactly what they ask for. I don't know—telling Santa you want a sled and then getting a sled is magic, but telling Grandma you want a sled (or a power drill or a Cuisinart) and then getting it seems a bit too much like ordering a pizza. You know what you're getting, and you know, more or less, when it's due to arrive. Sure, it still tastes good—but where's the wonder?

In an ideal world we'd all chuck our lists, get out there, and hunt until we found the perfect gift for everyone we know. In real life, who has the time? Happily, the Observer and I have gotten out there and done some reconnaissance for you. There's some incredibly cool stuff out there—and the ideas I found are just the tip of the iceberg.

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Probably no people you know have a predynastic Egyptian hard stone battle-ax, circa 3200 B.C., on their wish listsbut it would make a lethally original gift. It's -a foot and a half long, and it's \$475 at Barclay Gallery on Main. Or head over to Downtown Home & Garden and surprise some-

one with a reproduc-

tion of one of the famous terra-cotta figures of the Chinese emperor Qin Shihuang's army. The real ones in China are life size; these are available in half sizes (\$400), quarter sizes (\$85), or sized to fit on a bookshelf (\$10). Get armored warriors, cavalrymen, or even the emperor himself.

For the gardener in your life, Downtown Home & Garden sells deliriously cheerful garden clogs with cork insoles in bright blue, yellow, red, or green for just \$40 a pair. They're made in Germany, and the box says proudly that they're made "mit Korkfußbett" and, if that weren't enough, are also "100% FCKW-frei." I have no idea what either of those things means, but

they have the ring of quality.

Also from Germany: miniature stone building blocks at the Conservatory on Liberty.

They come in red, baby blue, and sandy beige and are avail-

able in over 1,200 shapes and sizes, including arches, columns, keystones, and cobblestones. Think of them as a German

version of our Lincoln Logs, only you'll be inspired to build cathedrals instead of cabins. They've been around since 1880, and in German families they're cherished heirlooms. A modest starter set is \$80.

For the precision chef, Atys on Main Street sells chrome nickel kitchen utensils as sleek and shiny as surgical instruments, like an elegant \$52 spaghetti tester from Italy that looks like a space-age scalpel. It's back to Germany for a \$53 brushed-steel bottle stop that could double as an upscale plumb bob (that's a carpenter's tool). Sharing the same retail space on Main, Mezzanine offers the Austin Powers fan a reproduction of a 1965 tulip chair and ottoman by designer Pierre Paulin for \$2,750. Too steep? Check out

a miniature, Barbie-size 1960s

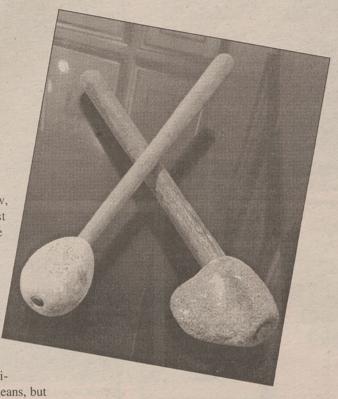
lounge chair and ottoman for \$400. Speaking of downsizing, Generations has pint-size plastic saxophones and clarinets for \$16, and they really work. The keys are colored to match a color-coded chart, so your children can play "Jingle Bells" minutes after they've opened the gift on Christmas morning. For the child who wants a pony (and what child doesn't?), there's the \$26 Giddy-Up Pony, a plush horse's head mounted on a wooden

stick. Squeeze the ears and it makes "lifelike" noises. Since the batteries aren't included, I can't attest to the sound quality.

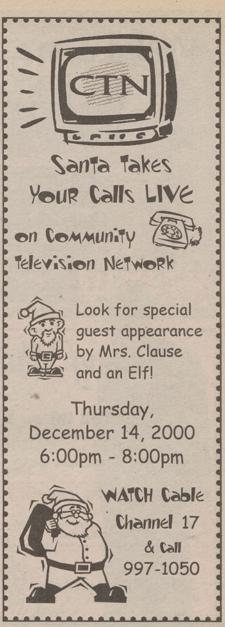
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If you want a bear, I can't help you, but if you're trying to get rid of one, Wilderness Outfitters has Bear Bells for \$6. They're cute little copper bells that strap to your backpack with Velcro, and they're supposed to scare off bears as you hike through the woods (unless they're particularly hungry bears, in which case you might discover you're wearing dinner bells). For someone whose idea of a wilderness adventure is snuggling up in front of a roaring fire in a snowbound cabin, pick up a cozy Woolrich sweater, \$40, and a pair of \$35 Smartwools to go with it. They're ribbed wool socks attached to a suede slipper with a rubber sole-okay, they look stupid, but they're also incredi-

Did you know that Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula was once the world's biggest source of pure native copper? I didn't until I checked out the copper display at Four Directions on Main Street. Between 1845 and 1968 miners dug up five million tons of the stuff, and thirteen pounds of it are on display in the store in the form of a pair of sculpted bookends. They're impressively huge and heavy and go for \$170. For the globe-trotting rock hound, the store stocks a splendid selection of globes made from rocks-the countries are inlaid semiprecious stones, and the oceans are lapis and onyx. A three-inch globe starts at \$35; a nine-incher is \$500.

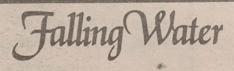


Egyptian stone battle-ax (above) and reproduction Chinese terra-cotta horse (below left).









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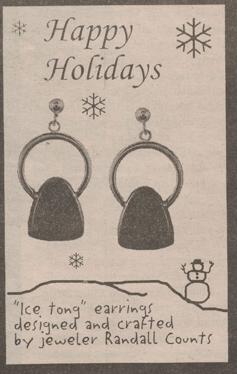
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Holiday Shapping continued



Stone-inlaid globes.

A niece of mine collects fountain pens; she says they're all the rage at her suburban Chicago high school. I can't confirm that, but at Selo/Shevel I did find her a

gorgeous fountain pen made of rosewood in its own little exotic hardwood case for \$60. The selection of wooden kaleidoscopes is pretty cool, too. They start at \$70 and go up to a spectacular \$670 model made of bubinga, yet another exotic hardwood. It looks like a sleek wooden spaceship and comes with three interchangeable cartridges for different kaleidoscopic views.

My mom is such a voracious reader that she can go through two or three books a week easy. At After Words I can get publish-

ers' overruns for about five bucks a copy, so I can afford to give Mom an entire stack of books for Christmas-with luck they'll last her through New Year's. For \$6 I found a great stocking stuffer: themed postcard collections. They include Edward Hopper paintings (guess which painting graces the cover), maps of the ancient world, and a set called Pump and Circumstance that features classic gas stations.

I found another good stocking stuffer at Kilwin's: Jelly Belly jelly beans, perfect because a bag of them wedges so nicely into the toe. They're \$8.50 a pound and come in wonderfully weird flavors like Hawaiian Punch, bubblegum, caramel corn, pumpkin pie, and root beer. Get all one flavor or mix and match-but eat the mix one bean at a time, or else you could end up with a mouthful of pumpkin pie and bubble gum. Eeeeeew.

If you know a guy who thinks candles are kind of sissified, teach him the error of his ways with a "Man's Candle" from the Little Dipper. It's a "rugged bayberry and raw beeswax shell" dyed to resemble aged, burnished leather, and it comes in what looks like a tiny burlap sack. Priced at \$19.50, it has what the package calls a masculine fragrance. Translation: it smells like aftershave.

PHOTOS GREGORY FOX

Among jigsaw puzzle aficionados, 3-D versions are all the rage. Animalia Gallery has ingenious wooden puzzles that when assembled become animals with moving parts. You can construct a walnut iguana (\$90), an Irish setter made of padauk (an exotic hardwood; \$95), and a small whale (\$34). Each puzzle has a wooden surprise at its heart: the iguana contains a small leaf, the setter has a Frisbee, and the whale contains-you guessed it-a tiny

The downside to buying someone in your house a musical instrument is that you have to listen while the person learns how to play it. If you're determined to give the gift of making music, go easy on the recipient-and yourself-with a simple one, like a \$24 ukulele or a \$13 Irish tin whistle. You can find both at Herb David.

Encore Recordings, on Liberty, is packed full of campy used audio and video, including the CD soundtrack to Decampi-



tated, a cheesy indie horror flick from the notorious Troma Films ("Where Your Sleeping Bag Becomes Your Body Bag!" shrieks the box), and a video called Making Whoopie with The Newlywed Game, billed as "wild and outrageous moments from Bob Eubanks's personal collection."

There's more vintage fun at Kaleidoscope on State Street, where you'll find an assortment of board games from yesteryear. I got a kick out of Have Gun, Will Travel, based on the Richard Boone TV series about a bounty hunter named Paladin. Players move little bullets around the board while sending "wires" to Paladin like "Bronco Bill stole my stallion. Will pay \$60 for his capture!" And you thought George Lucas invented promotional tie-ins.

Michigan merchandising goes extreme at Steve and Barry's, where you can find anything from a U-M throw for \$55 and \$4 maize-and-blue nail polish to flannel boxers with "Michigan" emblazoned on the waistband. It's possible to walk out of the store with an item that isn't maize or blue, but you really have to work at it. The only one I could find was a \$13 aluminum coffee travel mug with the Michigan logo . . .

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continued Holiday Shopping

kids' Records in Exile, I found obscurity aplenty, like The Other Side of the Balkans, a two-disc set of "Balkan Blues," and Sufi Soul, billed as "the most swinging religious music on earth." The sets were \$28 each. For something a tad more mainstream, consider The Big Ol' Box of Sixties Soul for \$100: 144 tracks on six CDs featuring not just the big names like James Brown and Aretha but also artists like the Five Du-Tones, the Mad Lads, and C and the Shells.

It's not unusual to find old pens in antique stores, but curiously, you don't often see antique inkwells. The Arcadian in Nickels Arcade has several for \$85 and up. The shop also has a lot of Tiffanystyle lamps, but the cool pick here is a Tiffany look-alike with thin slices of rose amber agate instead of colored glass in between the leading. Very nice, if you can

At Arte de Mexico Galleria, also in Nickels Arcade, there's a beautiful chess set in malachite (that's the green stone with black veins) with an Aztec motif; instead of knights and rooks, the players are forbidding-looking Aztec idols. It's \$160. I also spotted a bunch of red and green ceramic chili peppers hanging cheerfully in a corner for \$40. The gallery also sells chimeneas, outdoor clay fireplaces that look sort of like pregnant planters, starting at \$190.

Help folks brush up on their Shakespeare at Borders Books & Music with a \$30 poster containing the complete text of one of the Bard's plays. Who'd have thought you could squeeze Romeo and Juliet, A Midsummer Night's Dream, or Hamlet onto one big sheet of paper and still read it? Or brighten a romance fiction fan's year with Married by Midnight, a chapter-a-day desk calendar featuring a romance novel by Janis Reems Hudson. It's the story of Texas beauty Marcia Sheridan and handsome rancher Clay Landry, and how "neither was prepared for the passion that would ignite between them or the desire that would threaten to tear them apart." A whole year's worth of excitement for \$12.

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The fastidious traveler might like disposable toilet seat covers from Harry's Army Surplus. They're ten for 99¢, and you don't even have to touch them when you're done-one flush and they're automatically sucked away. Harry's also sells very handy-and very thirsty-camp towels that claim to absorb ten times their weight in water-perfect for weight-conscious backpackers at \$3.29.

Kitchen Port is the only place in Michigan where you can get KitchenAid cookware. It's pricey-a three-quart sauté pan is \$225-but would make an impressive gift for a serious cook. At the other end of the price spectrum, you can pick up a microwave egg poacher for \$5.95. There's also an incredibly versatile multipurpose grater (\$16.50) invented by

someone who worked in a hardware store. It's modeled after a rasp-a steel tool with coarse cutting edges used to shape wood-but this version does wonders with Parmesan cheese, grating it into beautiful, delicate strands, and makes zesting a lemon a breeze. (A grater might sound like a clunker of a gift, but trust me: anyone who's ever tried to mince a fibrous hunk of ginger will bless you.)

When my sister was little, she would drink from nothing but her beloved plastic Bugs Bunny mug-in fact, she loved it to the point that its face wore right off. Her Bugs mug was long ago lost to that twilight zone where unmatched socks and working ballpoint pens seem to gravitate, but I could get her a replacement at Mudpuddles for five bucks. I wonder if it would make her double espressos taste better? I also liked a mobile of an oversized plush yellow moon paired with an adorable blue star. For \$70, the pair would look perfect over a crib.

If you don't want to read Harry Potter to your kids for the umpteenth time, get Jim Dale to do it for you. I don't know who he is, but he narrates Harry Potter and the Goblet of

in its own wooden carrying case, complete with handle. The box says it's "just like you remember," but it's not like I remember-my Lincoln logs were plastic. And if your kids are bugging you to let them start wearing perfume, make it a learning experience with do-it-yourself Smackers Fragrance. Smackers lets kids mix their own perfume in apple, peach, vanilla, and strawberry scents,



complete with spritzer bottles and blank labels they can use to create their own designer logos (ages seven and up, \$13).

If you want to give someone the joy of animal companionship without actually having to buy a pet, give a bird

feeder and let nature supply the wildlife. The Wild Bird Center in Traver Village has lots of handcrafted wooden bird feeders to choose from, including special bluebird feeders for \$25. Apparently bluebirds don't like to dine alfresco; they prefer to eat indoors, so you have to get them a special enclosed feeder. They're finicky eaters, too, and they'll turn up their nose at most bird feed. They sound like the worst dinner guests in the world, but if you're determined to feed them, you can pick up a mix designed to appeal to even the pickiest bluebird palate.

Did you know that anyone can walk in off the street and buy a set of hospital scrubs? I used to think you had to work in a hospital to get them, and when I was in college twenty years ago I asked my roommate (who worked at U Hospital) to swipe some for me. Now I find such intrigue is not necessary: Uniforms & More in the Courtyard Shops sells tons of scrubs to nonmedical personnel like me. Tops are \$10 and bottoms are \$11 in your choice of sizes and colors. Stylish denim scrubs run \$18 for the tops and \$19 for the bottoms. They're really comfortable, and they make great pajamas.

I have a cat, and I have friends who

Fire, and it takes him twenty hours and seventeen CDs to do it. Get the unabridged version for \$70 at Talking Book World across from Arborland. Look for stocking stuffers on the sale rack-I picked up a copy of Dick Francis's Longshot narrated by Kenneth Branagh, three hours on two cassettes for \$4.

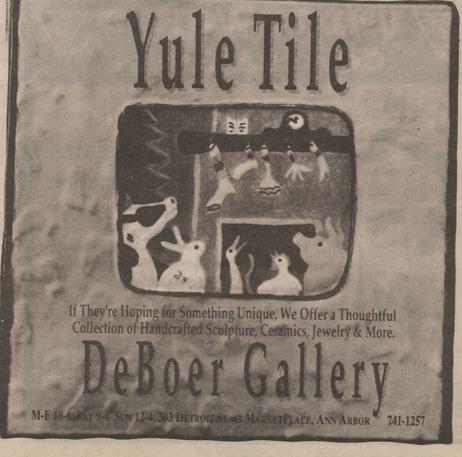
At Arborland, Hiller's has a great selection of specialty foods from around the world, like Golden Fry mix from Yorkshire, just right for the Anglophile on your list. It lets you whip up authentic "chip shop batter" so you can make your own English fish and chips at home. And a \$3 jar of Duerr's English traditional seedless blackberry bramble preserves is perfect with tea and crumpets.

If you know someone who goes all out with larger-than-life Christmas displays, get a larger-than-life nutcracker decked out in full military regalia. HomeGoods on Carpenter has one that's six feet tall for \$600, complete with an oversize hinged jaw and a big lever in the back. Home-Goods also has a nice selection of picture frames, including appropriately seasonal red wooden frames for \$10.

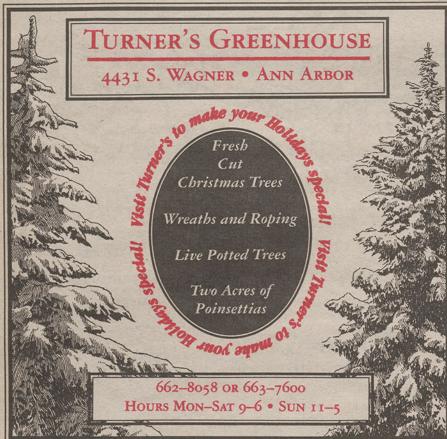
Pick up a classic piece of Americana at White Rabbit Toys in Traver Village with a Classic Lincoln Logs set for \$80. The pieces are all real wood, and the set comes PHOTOS GREGORY FOX

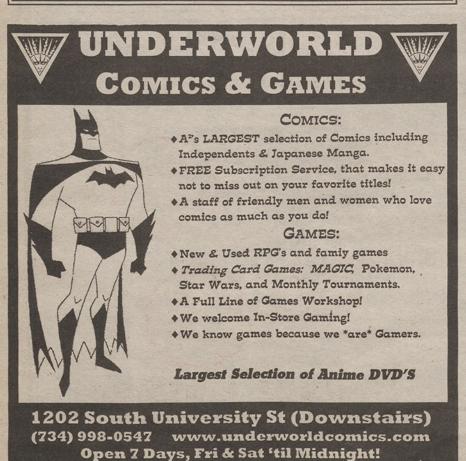












Holiday Shapping continued

have cats, and somehow over the years these cats started exchanging gifts (like people aren't hard enough to shop for). I've got them covered this year with a \$5 Fat Cat Crackler from University Aquarium at Westgate. It sounds pretty high tech-the makers call it a "kitty activation toy" and refer to its high "crackle factor." It's really just a cat toy that crackles when your cat swipes at it. I also found a perfect starter aquarium kit for \$35. Called the Eclipse Explorer, it comes with a filtration system and a two-gallon acrylic tank; the actual fish start at under a buck.

With today's high-tech yo-yos going for fifty bucks or more, it makes sense to pick up a \$5 yo-yo maintenance kit from Hobby Express in Maple Village. The kit includes vo-vo lubricant and an extra string. Fans of the King will go for Elvis: The Game—it comes with a staggering 1,700 Elvis trivia questions. The store also has a whole wall of used video games starting as low as \$5 for a copy of NBA '96. (I know

that's ancient by video game standards, but it's my guess that hoop fans who don't care about cuttingedge technology will still eat it up.) Newer games average about \$29.

Star Trek fans will love a couple of Christmas tree ornaments I spotted at Happy House Cards and Gifts at Westgate: a Lieutenant blown-glass bust Commander of Lieutenant Worf meets Commander Worf Michael Graves. for \$30, and a Borg cube for \$24 (it lights up and says, "We are Borg. Enjoy your holidays. Resistance is futile"). No word about whether or not Santa will try to assimilate you.

Unless you've used the one-block Winewood Street as a shortcut between South Maple and Stadium, you've probably missed Geography Ltd. Since I'm always looking to avoid the stoplight one block north, I drive Winewood a lot, and every time I do I notice that the store has a sign in the window advertising a half-off sale (buy one hemisphere, get the other hemisphere free?). This year I finally went inside and found it piled high with globes, maps, and books about travel, geography, history, and more. I picked up a mint-condition copy of Raj, the story of British rule in India, for \$16, half the original cover price. I also spotted some intriguing one-ofa-kind items like the Original Map to the Stars' Bones. Just \$7, it's billed as a comprehensive guide to the final resting place of over 350 stars and celebrities.

Sure, you could give a major appliance for Christmas, but they're hard to wrap, most don't fit under a tree, and you can't pick them up and shake them to guess what's inside. Fortunately, Big George's Home Appliance Mart on Stadium has plenty of other neat gift ideas that don't require a 220-volt outlet. My favorite: a 35-millimeter Coca-Cola camera for \$25. It looks just like a real can of Coca-Cola, but it's got a pop-up flash in the middle. It says "reusable," not recyclable-in other words, it's not one of those disposable

An avid runner who doesn't like to miss All Things Considered would love a Sony Walkman armband radio from Best Buy. At \$50, it's a cute little thing in a yellow case. The package says the radio is water resistant but cautions you not to use it in the shower, so I'm guessing that means it's just sweat resistant. Best Buy also sells Christmas music by a wide range of performers, including Babyface, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Garth Brooks, Bing Crosby, and Alvin and the Chipmunks. My advice: buy Vince Guaraldi's Charlie Brown Christmas for someone you really love. Happier music hasn't been written

202020

Does anybody really know what time it is? Time goes subjective with a chalkboard clock from Pier One (\$30). It's a round clock about eight inches across, and it functions like any other clock except that its face is a chalkboard. It comes with chalk so you can write whatever you want on

the dial-or nothing, if you'd rather not be ruled Father Time. Pier One also sells lots of green teanot to drink. but to slather

all over your body. I don't know whether green tea imparts the same kind of health benefits if you apply it instead of ingesting it, but the \$10 tea-scented bath oil, shampoo, and scrub gel sets smell great.

When did Target become so hip? The big chain store has surprisingly stylish housewares, especially its new line of accessories by architect and award-winning designer Michael Graves, whose work has appeared in New York's Museum of Modern Art. His teakettle is truly a work of art. Made of sleek stainless steel, it's shaped sort of like a breast with an ergonomic handle. Its lid is buttery yellow, and it has a cute little red tornado on the spout that spins when the kettle whistles. It's \$35.

At Briarwood's Natural Wonders, you can help someone shoot for the stars with NexStar 60GT, a computerized telescope so complicated, its display includes an eight-and-a-half-by-eleven bifold brochure to explain it. The big deal here, aside from how impossibly slick and high-tech the thing looks, is its Starpointer technology, a



The NexStar 60GT.

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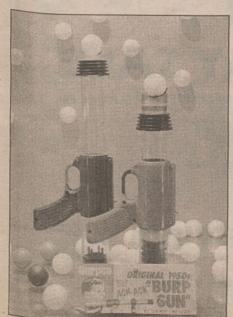
computerized database of over 18,000 celestial objects, and automatic pivoting capability so that you can focus in on any one of them at the touch of a button.

For the Goth gal in your life, consider an ankle-length black velveteen vest with a plunging scarlet bodice-sort of a cross between the wardrobes of Morticia Addams and Lily Munster. It's \$100 at Briarwood's Hot Topic. If that's beyond your budget, you could pick up a white-onblack postcard that sends much the same message. It reads, "I Do Bad Things."

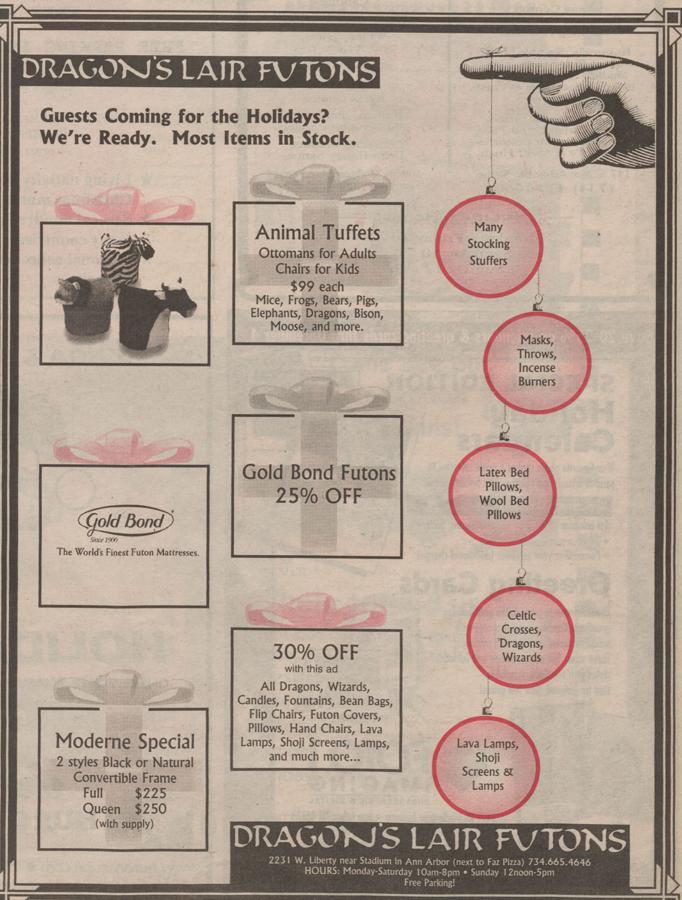
There are some great gifts to be found among Briarwood's corridor vendors, including \$14 Zoom Copters, nifty little low-tech helicopters with eighteen-inch blades that take off when you pull their strings; they hover a bit and then land. Or for a blast from the past, consider a burp gun. They fire what look like miniature Ping-Pong balls with nothing more than air power. A large is \$16; a small is \$11.

New England Home carries Gone Fishin' signs, reproduction antique fishing creels, little lighthouses, and other rustic stuff. If you know someone who dreams of owning a beach house, it's the next best thing. I liked a big brass sextant for \$149, brass binoculars for \$150, and a wooden replica of a life preserver from the Titanic, \$60

Who could say no to an entire tower of chocolate? Harry and David sells the Colossal Chocolate Extravaganza for \$40: it's made of double-dipped malted milk







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Friday Saturday Dec. 1 Dec. 2

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6pm - 9pm 10am - 9pm 11am - 8pm

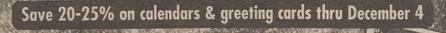
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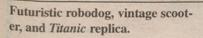


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119 *

paddling at the ground with the other. You can find them all over town priced anywhere from \$49.99 to \$125, but the coolest one I saw was at Kaleidoscope. It's the real thing from the 1960s, a slick Radio Line model about three feet long with ten-inch tires. It's \$115.



balls, chocolate mousse munch, chocolate cherries, miniature mints, and truffles, with each variety of goodie in its own gift-wrapped box and tied into a stack with a big bow. This is also a good place for stocking stuffers, like a packet of salmon bisque mix (\$11).

At WTVS Store of Knowledge, the \$100 Fantazein clock displays your own custom message or a built-in seasonal greeting, plus date and time, through laser optics. The message and the time appear to float in midair. Luddites

might prefer an ingenious hourglass that's suspended inside a water-filled tube. As the blue sand inside the hourglass sifts down, the entire hourglass rises inside the tube. It's \$17.

I have one word for J. Crew: cashmere. Cashmere footies, cashmere socks, cashmere hats, cashmere gloves. The ultimate indul-

gence: a cashmere camisole that

looks
as if it would feel positively sinful next to your skin, for \$78.

202020

In general, I like surprising people with something they didn't even know they wanted, but there are exceptions to this rule: children. All under twelve deserve to get at least one thing that they specifically have been pining for. This year's hot toys include Tekno, a \$40 robotic puppy that looks like a cross between Snoopy and Robocop. According to the package I saw at Toys R Us, he barks, walks, talks, cries, and is programmed to learn and respond to your commands "just like a real dog!" Having owned a number of uncooperative dogs in my time, I can see the appeal.

They look like a lot of work to me, but kids love those controversial little scooters that you ride with one foot while madly

The Warner Brothers Studio Store is your exclusive source for Harry Potter merchandise, from T-shirts, socks, and outerwear to pint glasses with the official Hogwarts motto: "Draco dormiens numquam titillandus." I don't know what that means, but presumably any Latin scholar—or any ten-year-old Harry Potter fan—can tell you.

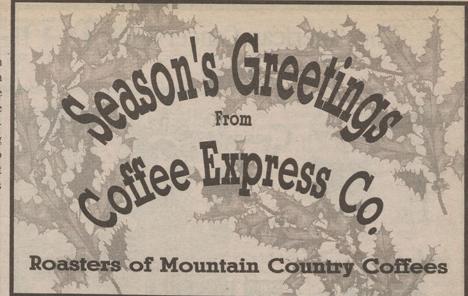
Finally, there are those perennial kid favorites: Barbie and her testosterone-pumped counterpart, G.I. Joe. Being a girl, I knew about all the variations on Barbie—Harley-Davidson Barbie, Astronaut Barbie, Presidential Candidate Barbie, etc.—but I didn't know that Hasbro was doing the same sort of thing with G.I. Joe. At Kay-Bee Toy and Hobby Shop

in Briarwood I found a
Deep-Sea Diver G.I. Joe,
Confederate and Union
Soldier Joes, Navajo
"Code Talker" Joe,
John F. Kennedy G.I.
Joe (as a World War II
PT boat skipper), and G.I.

Joe General Colin Powell. New this year: G.I. Joe 2010 Operation (code name: Shadow Fox). For \$15, he comes with his own sniper rifle and missile launcher (I swear I'm not making this up).

So there you have it: dozens of great gift ideas, and you didn't even have to leave your armchair. With any luck, you won't have to ask any of the people you know what they want for Christmas—and if Grandma insists on a list from you, you've got plenty of cool stuff to tell her. Now get out there and get shopping, because when it comes to actually buying this stuff and wrapping it, sorry—you're on your own.

Tony McReynolds contributed to this





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Create your own gift baskets:

We have everything you'll need from the basket, the bow, the filler to a wonderful selection of gourmet goodies, luscious fruits and boutique wines to delight anyone on your list ... OR ... choose from one of our ready-to-give fruit and gourmet baskets.

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The American Cancer Society Salutes

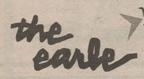














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Thank You!

These nine restaurants have joined together to create the 2001 "Passport to Fine Dining," a two-for-one dinner booklet benefitting the American Cancer Society of Washtenaw County. Available for only \$95 each; valued at over \$200. To order, call the American Cancer Society at (734) 971-4300.

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ITS TIME FOR VIEWERS TO HELP KEEP PUBLIC TELEVISION

Lucille Ball: Finding Lucy

An American Masters Special

9 p.m., Saturday,

Actress, comedienne, studio head ... a profile of television's first female

The Awful Truth

4:30 p.m., & 5 p.m., Sunday, December 3

"Spraying Giluiliani' protects New

Yorkers from the excessive force of the police department under Mayor Rudy Giluiliani by spraying City Hall to eliminate the mayor

"Corporate Crime Unit-Episode Three" completes the series of preventative street crime tactics combating corporate wrongdoings







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DECEMBER EVENTS

We want to know about your event!

Who to write to:

Mail press releases to John Hinchey, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. (There is an after-hours drop box at the front door.) NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE, but faxes are welcome or send E-mail to events@arborweb.com. Fax numbers are: 769-3375 or 769-4950. The entire Observer events calendar for the month is available on arborweb: http://www.arborweb.com.

What gets in?

With few exceptions, events must be within Ann Arbor. Always include the address and telephone of a contact person. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:

All appropriate materials received by Sunday, December 10, will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in

* Denotes no admission charge

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednes-

www.arborweb.com

1 FRIDAY

Annual Christmas Sale: Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor. December 1 & 2. This extremely popular sale features used Christmas decorations (artificial Christmas trees, tested sets of tree lights, candles, etc.), all sorts of children's games and toys, skis, skates, bicycles, sleds, books, hardware, appliances, boots, coats, and lots of good-quality furniture, from chairs and couches to lamps, desks, and cabinets. 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Kiwanis Activities Center, W. Washington at First. Free admission. 665-0450.

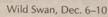
*Exercise Class: Brookhaven Manor. Every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday except December 22 & 25. All seniors 55 and over invited to exercise with a fitness instructor. 9-9:45 a.m., Brookhaven Manor, 401 Oakbrook Dr. Free. 747-8800.

*"Death and Its Enemies": U-M Life Sciences, Values, and Society Program/Open Society Insti-tute Project on Death in America. December 1 & 2. A 2-day conference exploring the ramifications of recent scientific advances that raise the possibility of dramatic increases in human life expectancy. Speakers include U-M president Lee Bollinger, Yale University law professor Robert Burt, U-M Institute of Gerontology pathology professor Richard Miller, Na-tional Institute on Aging founding director Robert Butler, Columbia University social medicine professor David Rothman, and Columbia University humanities professor Andrew Delbanco. Moderated by U-M law professor Richard Lempert. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (Dec. 1) & 9 a.m.-noon (Dec. 2), Rackham Amphitheater (4th floor). Free, but space limited. 647-

*"12th Annual Day Without Art": U-M Museum of Art. See review, p. 107. In recognition of World AIDS day, the museum drapes a number of works in black mourning cloth to acknowledge the wealth of creativity lost because of the severe impact of AIDS on the international arts community. Also, continu-Ous screenings of *Blue*, Derek Jarman's film about his loss of sight due to AIDS; screenings of *Silver*his loss of sight due to AIDS; screenings of Silver-lake Life, a documentary of one man's life with and death from HIV (1 & 3 p.m.); and readings about loss and AIDS (noon-1 p.m.) The gallery at U-M Pierpont Commons also observes a "Day Without Art," 7 a.m.-midnight. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 764-0395.

"A Christmas Walk Through Historic Earhart Manor": Concordia College, December 1-5. All invited to enjoy the splendor of this 1935 English-







Joel Mabus, Dec. 15

- GALLERIES

107 **EXHIBIT OPENINGS** 107 GALLERY REVIEW A Day Without Art

Laura Bien

John Lofy

- MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS -

115 **NIGHTSPOTS SCHEDULE** 115

John Hinchey

NIGHTSPOTS REVIEW Balduck Mountain Ramblers

Kate Conner-Ruben

- EVENTS REVIEWS -

BOAR'S HEAD FESTIVAL Pageantry and mystery

89 **UTE LEMPER**

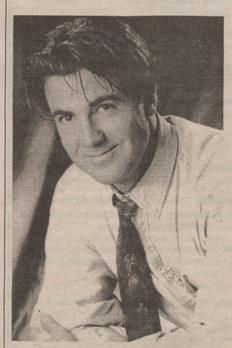
Kurt Weill meets rock

THE BOYCHOIR OF ANN ARBOR Celestial piercing

148 **EVENTS AT A GLANCE** Laura Bien

James M. Manheim

Paul R. Schwankl



Jackie Flynn, Dec. 31



Peter Berman, Dec. 21-23

style country manor, currently home to Concordia administration, built by former local gasoline baron Harry Earhart. It features secret panels and hidden passageways linking rooms and floors, a room once used solely for arranging flowers, and rooms so spa-cious that a former closet is now a top Concordia administrator's office. Proceeds benefit a college scholarship fund and Ypsilanti's Hope Clinic. Also, sale of Christmas items on the last evening. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (Dec. 1), 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (Dec. 2 & 3), and 2-4 p.m. & 6-8 p.m. (Dec. 4 & 5). CC campus, 4090 Geddes. Tickets \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Children 12 & under and seniors, \$5. 995-

*Brown Bag Lecture: U-M Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies. December 1 & 8. Talks by U-M and visiting scholars. Bring a bag lunch; Indian or Thai lunch (\$4) available to take out or eat during the lecture, 11:45-12:15 p.m. Today: U-M architecture professor Rahul Mehrotra discusses "Bazaars in Victorian Arcades: Conservation and Planning in Bombay." Also this month: U-M architecture professor Will Glover talks about "Colonial Bungalows: 'A Feeling of Absence from Old England'" (December 8). Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–5261.

*"Gender, Slavery, and Ways of Forgetting in *Gender, Slavery, and Ways of Forgetting in the History of South Asia": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. Talk by Brown University visiting scholar Indrani Chatterjee. 2-4 p.m., SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-9537.

Holiday Art Sale. December 1 & 2. Five local artists offer their works in many media, including ceramics and metalwork by Cherie Haney, functional pottery by J. T. Abernathy and Margo West, and prints and paintings by Connie McKinny and Michael Anne Erlewine. Also, live music by local musicians (today, 6–9:30 p.m.), a pottery throwing demo (Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.), and a demo of Japanese raku firing (Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.). Refreshments. Prices range from \$10-\$200. 4:30-10 p.m. (Fri.) & 11 a.m.-4 p.m. (Sat.), 111 3rd. St. (inside the Technology Center). Free admission. 623-8496.

*"25th Annual Holiday Evening in Saline": Saline Area Chamber of Commerce. Saline pulls out all the stops to welcome Old St. Nick with a community tree lighting ceremony (7 p.m., Saline-Ann Arbor Road at Michigan Avenue), immediately followed by a parade (down Michigan Avenue from Harris Street past the tree) that culminates with the arrival of Santa, impersonated for the 25th consecutive year by Tim Collins. Mrs. Claus hosts a pre-parade party with merchant giveaways and entertainment TBA (4-6 p.m., Saline Shopping Center near Michigan Avenue and Maple Street), and there's a pre-parade dance recital at Union School (5:45-6:30 p.m.). Also, open houses at the Saline Depot Museum and Bixby Marionette Museum (5.7 p.m.) and siderally entertainment by seum (5-7 p.m.) and sidewalk entertainment by strolling musicians, carolers, dancers, Mrs. Claus, and elves. After the parade, a concert by the popular Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic (8 p.m.) and a chance to view live reindeer and get your photo with Santa at Santa's Village (8 p.m., Lucky Bucks, 131 E. Michigan Ave.). Free shuttle buses run between sites. 4:30-9:30 p.m., downtown Saline. Free. 429-4494

2000 St. Nicholas Light Display: Spirit of Christmas. Nightly November 17-December 31. This annual indoor-outdoor spectacular features over 2 million lights twinkling on Domino's Farms trees and in special displays, including the new Iced Angel and Victorian Sleigh and Village, as well as the Snowflake Tunnel, Noah's Ark, and many more The indoor display includes a gingerbread house village, a ballyon of trees lavishly decorated by agent lage, a hallway of trees lavishly decorated by area merchants, a display of creche scenes from around the world, a Winter Wonderland display with a ridable minitrain, and the new Bethlehem Village. Refreshments available. Proceeds benefit the Make-A-Wish foundation. 5:30–10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) & 5:30–9:30 p.m. (Sun.-Thurs.), Domino's Farms, 30 Frank Lloyd Wright Dr. (off Earhart Rd. north of Plymouth Rd.). Admission \$7 per vehicle (Fri.-Sun.), \$5 per vehicle (Mon.-Thurs.). Buses: \$100.930–4430.

★Open Card and Board Gaming Night: The Underworld. Every Friday. All invited to play any of the collectible card or board games that the Underworld carries—but you must find your own opponents. 6 p.m.-midnight, Underworld, 1202 South University. Free. 998–0547.

*Art Show Opening and Band and Jazz Band

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN SCHOOL OF



Digital Music Ensemble



H. Robert Reynolds, conductor

Fri.-Sat., Dec 1-2

Saturday, Dec. 2

Sunday, Dec. 3

Sunday, Dec. 3

Sunday, Dec. 3

Monday, Dec. 4

Tuesday, Dec. 5 8:00 PM

Tuesday, Dec. 5

Wednesday, Dec. 6

Thursday, Dec. 7

Thur-Sat, Dec. 7-9

Thur-Sun, Dec. 7-10

8:00 PM/Sun 2:00

Thursday, Dec. 7

Friday, Dec. 8 8:00 PM

Fri-Sat, Dec. 8-9 11:00 PM

Saturday, Dec. 9

Sat-Sun, Dec. 9-10

Saturday, Dec. 9

Sunday, Dec. 10

Sunday, Dec. 10

Sunday, Dec. 10

Tuesday, Dec. 12

Tuesday, Dec. 12

Tuesday, Dec. 12

Wednesday, Dec. 13

Thursday, Dec. 14

Thur-Sat, Dec. 14-16

Sunday, Dec. 17

8:00 PM

1:00

2:00 PM

8:00 PM

4:00 PM

8:00 PM

2:30 PM

8:00 PM

8:00 PM

8:00 PM

8:00 PM

8:00 PM

4:00 PM

4:00 PM

8:00 PM

8:00 PM

8:00 PM

2:30 PM

6:00 PM and 9:00 PM

8:00 PM



Symphony Band



Margo Halsted, carillonneur



The Tempest

SCHOOL OF MUSIC **EVENTS HOTLINE:** (734) 763-4726

Concert Web Site (including student recital information): www.music.umich.edu/ events/index.html

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS:

DIGITAL MUSIC ENSEMBLE • Media Union Video Studio • Greg Laman, director. 7:00 (installation). Original compositions featuring multi-channel digital audio & video projections.

WOMEN'S GLEE CLUB • Museum of Art • Theodore Morrison, Guest Conductor A varied program of Twentieth Century compositions for Treble Choir.

MICHIGAN MARCHING BAND CRISLER CONCERT • Crisler Arena • James Tapia, Conductor Traditional Michigan songs and highlights from the current season. Tickets: \$6/\$2 at the door.

MICHIGAN CHAMBER PLAYERS • Britton Recital Hall • UM Faculty Program to include The Grand Partita by Mozart and Quartet for the End of Time, Messiaen.

RECITAL SERIES: The Complete Bach Organ Works; James Kibbie, organ • Blanche Anderson Moore Hall • 17th of 18 recitals. Works to include: Chorales for Advent & Christmas.

COMPOSERS' FORUM • Britton Recital Hall • Compositions by University of Michigan student composers.

JAZZ COMBOS · Britton Recital Hall · Donald Walden, director Jazz Explorations of the Past, Present, and Future.

UNIVERSITY CHOIR • Hill Auditorium • Jerry Blackstone, conductor The Fourth Wise Man by Randall Davidson.

CAMPUS BAND • Hill Auditorium • Miller Asbill and Damon Talley, conductors Works to include Shostakovich, Dello Joio, Holsinger, Bach, and UM alumni, Frank Ticheli.

DANCE: COMPOSITION SHOWINGS • Betty Pease Studio Theatre, Dance Building • Choreography by dance students demonstrating dance movement with journalistic writing.

DANCE & RELATED ARTS PERFORMANCE • Betty Pease Studio Theatre • Collaborative and multi-disciplinary performance projects. Tickets \$5 at the door

THEATRE DEPARTMENT: TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD adapted by Christopher Sergel from the novel by Harper Lee • Power Center • A timeless tale of the innocence of children pitted against the irrational hatred of adults. Tickets: \$20/\$15/\$7. For tickets, call 764-0450.

JA77 ENSEMBLE AND SALSA BAND - AN EVENING OF LATIN MUSIC • Backham Auditorium. Ellen Rowe, director / Roland Vazquez, percussion / guest dancer(s).

SYMPHONY BAND • Hill Auditorium • H. Robert Reynolds, conductor / Ellen Rowe, pianist. Piano Concerto, Stravinsky; Wind Overture, Morrison; Symphonic Excursions, Patterson.

CANDLELIGHT CABARET STUDENT RECITAL • Clements Library (Fri) / Kerrytown Concert House (Sat). Joan Morris, director. A 1-hr revue of songs & short comedy skits.

SYMPOSIUM: The Future of Classical Music in America • Rackham Assembly Hall • A panel of students, faculty, and community members discuss classical music today.

HOLIDAY CARILLON RECITALS . Burton Memorial Tower (Sat) / Lurie Tower (Sun) . University Carillonist Margo Halsted and U of M carillon students

CONTEMPORARY DIRECTIONS ENSEMBLE • Britton Recital Hall • Steven Byess, director Homáge: Forever Escher, Chihara; In Memorium Dylan Thomas, Stravinsky.

BACH 2000 SERIES: BACH ADVENT & CHRISTMAS MUSIC • Blanche Anderson Moore Hall Canonic Variations, Orgelbüchlein, EMU organ students, & Pamela Fuiter-Feenstra, organist.

CONCERT BAND • Hill Auditorium • James Tapia, conductor / Scott Teeple, guest conductor Leslie Bassett, UM composer. Works by John Adams, Leslie Bassett, Schwantner and Brahms.

FACULTY RECITAL: Martin Katz, piano; Thomas Landschoot, cello • Britton Recital Hall • Works by Schumann, Webern, Barber, Debussy and Brahms

DANCE: COMPOSITION SHOWINGS • Studio A, Dance Building • Choreography by dance students demonstrating dance movement with journalistic writing. 4:00 Congolese dance.

UNIVERSITY PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA & CHAMBER CHOIR • Hill Auditorium • Steven Byess & Theodore Morrison, Conductors. Works by Handel, Britten and Dvorak.

FACULTY RECITAL: Erik Santos, pianist and composer • Works to include: Guernica Dances for two pianos, Santos; Only the Dead May Drink (world premiere), Santos.

UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA • Hill Auditorium • Kenneth Kiesler, conductor Symphony No. 32, Mozart; Guitar Concerto, Sparr (D.J. Sparr, guitar); Sinfonietta, Janacek.

GUEST RECITAL: Sean Duggan, piano • Britton Recital Hall • Final recital of complete Bach clavier music. Duggan is a two time winner of the International Bach Competition.

THEATRE DEPARTMENT: The Tempest by William Shakespeare • Power Center • Philip Kerr, director. Shakespeare's last great romance play, The Tempest is regarded as one of his most beautiful and accomplished. Tickets: \$20/\$15/\$7 call 764-0450.

RECITAL SERIES: The Complete Bach Organ Works; James Kibbie, organ • Blanche Anderson Moore Hall • Last of 18 recitals. Prelude and Fugue in C Major & Passacaglia in C Minor.

For details on above events as well as student/studio recifals, please refer to the Calendar of Events in the Ann Arbor Observer, School of Music web page www.music.umich.edu/events/index.html, or call the School of Music at 764-0583. For Dance Events call 763-5460. Events are free and wheelchair accessible unless otherwise specified. The E.V. Moore Building houses Britton Recital Hall, McIntosh Theatre and Blanche Anderson Moore Hall. The Moore Building and the Stearns Building are located on Baits Dr., North Campus (US 23 to Plymouth Rd., Plymouth to Broadway, Broadway to Baits).

Concert: Greenhills School. Exhibit (see Galleries) of photography, ceramics, drawings, and paintings by Greenhills students. Followed by performances (7:30 p.m.) by middle and high school concert bands and jazz ensembles, directed by Deborah Henderson and Annunziata Tomaro. 6 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Free. 205–4057.

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★"Haunt": U-M School of Art & Design. Closing reception for this exhibit (see Galleries) in which U-M art students interpreted the word "haunt" in any way they liked. 6–8 p.m., Art & Architecture Bldg. Robbins Center, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd., North Campus. Free. 936-2082.

*18th Annual Christmas Creche Display: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. De ember 1-3. One of Ann Arbor's most popular Christmas traditions, this family-oriented exhibit returns in a scaled-down version in a smaller location while the Green Road church is being renovated-Highlights include a living Nativity scene and a se-lection of the more than 100 creches (Nativity scenes) bequeathed to the exhibit by Catherine Car roll, the well-known local pediatrician who died in 1997. Carroll's collection features an 18th-century presepio, a Baroque creche tradition sustained by both the Neapolitan royalty and church that features wood-and-porcelain figures clothed in lavish miniature costumes. Also, many other creches from around the world collected or designed by women of the church. It features rooms devoted to miniature creches and a "touch table" of unbreakable creches for children to arrange and rearrange. The creches are made of a variety of materials, including ceramics, wood, cloth, corn husks, and paper, and styles range from simple childlike figures to hand-carved traditional figures to elegant original designs. They range in size from an image inscribed on a pinhead (viewed with a magnifying glass) to creches with 18-inch figures in a French Santon village. 6-9 p.m., Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 914 Hill St. Free. 327-7692, 461-2893.

★13th Annual Festival of Lights: Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce. December 1 & 2. This popular community celebration offers a variety of family activities and gingerbread house displays in downtown shop windows. Tonight: tree lighting (6:30 p.m., Pierce Park gazebo). Santa opens his workshop, where children can participate in crafts while waiting to share their Christmas wishes (7–8:30 p.m., UAW Hall). Also, a living Nativity complete with live animals (7–8:30 p.m., Main at Orchard), cookie decorating and hayrides (First Congregational Church, 7–9 p.m.), and woodcarving demonstrations by Marilyn Dusbiber (7–9 p.m., Village Shoppe). Dance Arts Performing Ensemble offers ballet excerpts from the Nutcracker (7-9 p.m., First Congregational Church). Finally, the community carol sing (9-9:30 p.m., train depot) 6:30-9:30 p.m., downtown Chelsea. Free. 475-

U-M Women's Basketball vs. New Hampshire. 7 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$3 (youths under 18, \$1; U-M students with 1D, free). 764–0247.

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. December 1, 9, & 12 (different opponents). This Ann Arbor-based program features 46 of the best 16- and 17-year-old American ice hockey players under the guidance of U.S. National coach Jeff Jackson. The program fields two teams— the Under-17 Team and the Under-18 Team—that play full schedules, September–March, against teams from the top American junior leagues (players ages 18-21) and against comparable European national teams. Today: Team USA Under-17 vs. Soo (Sault Ste. Marie) of the North American Hockey League. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. at Scio Church Rd. \$6 (students & children

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in simple dancing to chants and songs from various spiritual and religious traditions. Be ginners welcome. 7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. \$5 requested donation. 996–1332.

★"Cover to Cover": Ann Arbor District Library. AADL staff lead a discussion of The Perfect Storm: A True Story of Men Against the Sea, Sebastian Junger's nonfiction book, recently adapted in a George Clooney film, about a doomed New England fishing vessel. 7 p.m., AADL West Branch, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. Preregistration required.

*Caroling Party: Kempf House Center for Local History. All invited to gather at this historic home and warm up your voices around the newly tuned 1877 Steinway piano before heading out into the streets to sing Christmas carols accompanied by the Salvation Army brass band. Carolers then return to

the Kempf House for hot cider and cookies. 7 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Free. 994-4898

*"Festive Friday Holiday Nights": Main Street Area Association. December 1, 8, 15, & 22. Side-walk-strolling local entertainers, including Livonia organ grinders Nan & John Flint, the Arbor Consort choir in Renaissance costume, and bagpiper Herm Steinman. Additional performers include the Eclectics swing jazz band (December 1), the Boychoir of Ann Arbor (December 1 & 8), the Boys Night Out barbershop quartet (December 1, 15, & 22), the County Connection Sweet Adelines chorus (December 1), the Choral Connection choir (December 8), the Musical Moments a cappella quartet (December 8), the Community High Jazz Band (December 8), and the Patchwork Quartet vocal ensemble (December 8 & 15). Visitors can donate a toy for needy children today at the SOS drop box at 306 S. Main (next to Jules furniture). Also, most downtown stores are open late for "Midnight Madness." 7–9 p.m., downtown area bounded by Main, Liberty, Washington, and Fourth Ave. Free. 668-

- ★Celtic Music Festival: Nicola's Books. Local fid-dler Jeremy Kittel, a U.S. National Scottish Fiddle champion, presents an evening of Scottish, Irish, and Cape Breton fiddle music to celebrate the release of his CD, Celtic Fiddle. Accompanied by Celtic harpist Beverly Black. 7 p.m., Nicola's Books, Traver Village, 2625 Plymouth Rd. Free. 662–4110.
- *Marianetta Porter: U-M School of Art & Design. This U-M art professor whose work focuses on Afrocentric themes discusses her current projects, Memory and Oblivion and Places Without Proper Names. 7–9 p.m., Art & Architecture Bldg. auditorium, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd., North Campus. Free.
- *David Nefesh: Liberty Borders. This local guitarist performs moody, infectious folk-flavored originals, including selections from his new CD Stripped. 7 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668-
- *Digital Music Ensemble: U-M School of Music. December 1 & 2. U-M music school computer consultant Greg Lamar leads this 16-member music-student ensemble in an original experimental work that combines ordinary sounds, manipulated into a musical collage of techno, funk, and jazz elements, with semiabstract video images of everyday life that are projected onto a moving sculpture. 7 p.m., Media Union Video Studio, 2281 Bonisteel Blvd., North Campus. Free. 769-4950.
- *"Peer Gynt": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration. December 1 & 2. RC drama teacher Kate Mendeloff directs RC students in Ibsen's 1867 poetic drama, a visionary extravaganza about the disturbingly charismatic Peer Gynt. The action, epic in its scale, traces his life from a high-spirited young man to a middle-aged capitalist to a bitter old man facing death. The settings vary from the mountains of Norway and the troll kingdom to a Cairo insane asylum and shipwreck on a stormy sea. With original music by Ben Tausig based on the Edvard Grieg suite composed for the play's first production. 7 p.m., RC Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 763-0176.
- ★19th Annual "Holiday Brass Concert": Galliard Brass Ensemble. This award-winning local brass quintet led by trumpeter Charles Larkins presents a varied holiday program. Works include Galliard's signature piece, Samuel Scheidt's "Galliard Battaglia," featuring two trumpeters tossing flourishes back and forth as they enter the sanctuary. Other works include Ronald Romm's striking arrangement of Bach's G minor fugue and Canadian composer Morley Calvert's Suite for the Monteregian Hills, an audience favorite based on French Canadian folk songs. Holiday music also includes brass arrangements of Hanukkah songs, including the solemn but lovely "In the Window" and the festive "Hanukkah Begins Tonight," and several Christmas carols arranged for brass, including the stately "Once in Royal David's City." 7:30 p.m. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. at Ellsworth. \$14 (students and seniors, \$10; kids 10 and under, \$6) in advance and at the door. 662-5146.

23rd Annual Boar's Head Festival: Concordia College. December 1-3. See review, p. 81. leweled with medieval splendor, this elegantly elaborate pageant, allegorizing Christ's victory over sin and death, is presented by a cast of more than 100 Con-cordia students and staff and area children. Originating in medieval England and celebrated for centuries at Cambridge and Oxford, the Boar's Head Festival is a rich spectacle that combines religious pageantry and secular pomp, with musical narration, congrega-tional singing, and a full orchestra. It offers vividly dressed Beefeaters, hunters, jesters, and other court characters, as well as traditional Christmas shep-herds and magi. The peak of the festival is the pre-

sentation of a wild boar's head. The beast came to symbolize Satan, and its slaying represented good vanquishing evil. A holiday dinner is served before tomorrow's performance. This hugely popular event sells out in advance every year, so get your tickets early. 7:30 p.m. (Dec. 1 & 2) & 4 p.m. (Dec. 3), Concordia College Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes at Earhart. Tickets \$12 (ages 12 & under, \$6; Dec. 2 dinner & performance, \$35) in advance at the Kreft Center box office. 995–4612.

*Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society. This semester's last chance to peer through the telescope on the Angell Hall roof to examine interesting and sublime celestial objects. Members on hand to answer questions. 8-10 p.m., fifth floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (from the large State St. entrance, take one of the elevators on the left). Free. 936–3626.

First Friday Square and Contra Dance. Dancing to live music by Licketysplit, with local caller John Freeman. All dances taught; beginners and older children welcome. No partner necessary. 8-11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of 1-94). \$6 (children, \$3) at the door.

*Native American Open Mike Poetry: U-M Michigan League. All Native American poets invited to read their work. 8 p.m., Michigan League Underground, 911 North University. Free. 763-4652.

58 Greene. A program of contemporary pop by this popular 15-member U-M coed a cappella ensemble. Also, performances by Ladies First, a female a cappella chorus from Indiana University, and Funktion, a male hip-hop dance troupe from the U-M. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$7 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

Karla Bonoff: The Ark. Ark debut of this veteran inger-songwriter from southern California known for her incisive lyrical romanticism and sweetly melancholy voice. She first gained attention in the early 70s through Linda Ronstadt's recordings of her songs, including "Someone to Lay Down Beside Me" and "Lose Again," and her songs have since been covered by everyone from Bonnie Raitt to Wynonna Judd, who had a hit with Bonoff's "Tell Me Why." Opening act is Alice Peacock, a rising young Chicago singer-songwriter who cites Tom Petty and Rickie Lee Jones as prime influences for her honky-tonk-oriented roots rock. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$17.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-

"A Christmas Carol": EMU Theater of the Young. December 1-3, 8, & 9. EMU drama professor Karen Smith-Mayer directs EMU students in her adaptation of Dickens's perennially popular tale of redemption that blends Victorian and contemporary perspectives, so that, for instance, the tale of Scrooge's redemption is juxtaposed with images of a contemporary soup kitchen. Aimed at theatergoers ages 8 & older. 8 p.m., Quirk Theater, Ford St., EMU campus, Ypsilanti. (Take Huron River Dr. east to Lowell St. Take Lowell to Ford St. and turn right onto Ford. The theater is on the left, with parking on the right.) Tickets \$6 (Thurs.), \$11 (Fri. & Sat. evenings), \$9 (Sat. & Sun. matinees) in advance; \$8 (Thurs.), \$13 (Fri. & Sat. evenings), \$11 (Sat. & Sun. matinees) at the door. Group discounts avail-

"Rhinoceros": Community High Theater Ensemble. November 29 & 30 and December 1. U-M senior (and Community High grad) Brendan McMahon directs CHS students in Eugene Ionesco's absurdist drama tracing the insidious spread of fascism in a society. Set in a French village, the action traces the villagers' transformation, one by one, into thickskinned, hard-nosed rhinos. Cast: James Leaf, Jim Burling, Catherine Lardas, Cassie Haynes, Kent Klausner, Brandon Cave, Mary Cronley, Ariela Gittlen, Alexis Brannan, David Putman, and James Free-lan. 8 p.m., Community High School Craft Theater, 401 N. Division. (Parking available in the lot behind the school, N. Fifth Ave. at Detroit St.) \$7 (students, \$5) at the door only. 994-2021.

"The Sorcerer": U-M Gilbert and Sullivan Society. November 30-December 3. David Zinn and Victoria Rondeau direct this accomplished local town-and-gown company in Gilbert & Sullivan's 1877 operetta about a chaos-causing love potion. When an idealistic young man about to get married wants his entire village to know the joy of being in love, he commissions a sorcerer to concoct a love potion that causes love at first sight. The grossly unsuitable matches that result ridicule Victorian England's baroque and rigid class system, a source of shocking humor that is often lost on modern American audiences. This subtle yet pervasive period sensibility makes the play possibly the most difficult



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Flatsnoots Christmas Trees is happy to be in Ann Arbor once again.

We will be selling our fine selection of Christmas trees at the same two locations:

 The Boulevard Plaza on West Stadium, just north of the Post Office. The Ann Arbor Buick Car Lot at 3165 Washtenaw (near Huron Pkwy.).

WE ARE TREE GROWERS FROM NORTHERN MICHIGAN AND ARE OFFERING THESE SPECIES:

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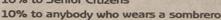
Sized from 3 foot tabletops to majestic 15 footers. We also have a fine selection of wreaths (decorated and undecorated) roping (garland) and tree stands.

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10% to anyone shorter than my friend Phil

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Flatsnoots comes to Ann Arbor to erect our portable arbor and to do some urban camping. To see old friends and to meet new friends. To enjoy ourselves and not to be boneheads, and perhaps to sell a few Christmas trees and wreaths.





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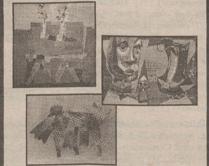
Friday, December 1 Spaghetti Dinner and Spaghetti Western Evening 6:30 p.m., Green Room Sunday, December 3 & 10 Slide Lecture American Art History: A Mini-Survey One time \$25 fee. 2–3 p.m., Little Theater



Tuesday—Thursday 10 A.M.—4 P.M., Friday 10 A.M.—10 P.M. Saturday 10 A.M.—4 P.M., Sunday 11 A.M.—5 P.M., Closed Mondays 419-255-8000 for more information • www.toledomuseum.org William D. Koerner, The Madonna of the Prairie 1922, oil on canvas, Buffalo Bill Historical Center, Cody, Wyoming

HOLIDAY EXHIBITION

Nov. 29 - Dec. 23 OPENING RECEPTION: Dec. 2, 5-8pm



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G & S work to direct. Cast: Amy McKenna, Lori Gould, Milena Grubor, Laura Christian, Mitchell Gillett, Matt Grace, David Andrews, Jeff Spindler, Ben Perry. 8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, Michigan League. Tickets \$14 & \$16 (seniors \$13 & \$15; students \$7) in advance at the Michigan League Ticket Office and at the door. To charge by phone: 764–0450; information: 647–8436.

"Fuddy Meers": Performance Network Professional Season. November 30 and December 1–3, 7–10, 14–17, & 21–23. Dan Walker directs David Lindsay-Abaire's Off-Broadway comedy hit about an extreme identity crisis. The story concerns a mild-mannered woman with amnesia so thorough she wakes up every morning unable to remember even the previous day, so that her world is a virtual hall of funhouse mirrors—"fuddy meers" as her aphasic mother calls them—where nothing is quite as it seems. The comedy and poignancy of the situation are deepened by the fact that the people in her life—from her profane mother (a stroke victim) to a mad ex-convict whose only confidante is a hand puppet named Binky—really are more than a little off kilter. Cast: Chris Anne Voudoukis, John Siebert, Thomas Hoagland, Nancy Heusel, Jeff Noune, Leah Smith, and Joel Mitchell. 8 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron, Courthouse Square. Tickets \$20 (seniors, \$17) on Fri. & Sat. & \$17 (seniors, \$14) on Thurs. & Sun. in advance by reservation and at the door. For reservations, call 663–0681; to charge by phone, call 663–0696.

Elliott Branch: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase. November 30 and December 1 & 2. This Detroit-bred comic who now lives in L.A. is known for his high-speed, hurricane-force monologues offering goofy, somewhat profane takes on a wide range of topics from the oddities of childhood to brokendown cars, cars with fancy options, beer, and beer commercials. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 & 10:30 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. Tickets \$8 reserved seating in advance, \$10 general admission at the door. 996–9080.

Singles Dance: Parents Without Partners. December 1, 15, & 31. All adults invited for an evening of dancing and socializing. Recorded 70s–90s music played by a DJ from Imperial Sound. Cash bar. Smoking allowed in designated areas. 9 p.m.–1 a.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. \$7 (PWP members, \$5), 973–1933.

Benny Green Trio: Bird of Paradise. December 1 & 2. Swinging, soulful hard bop jazz by this trio from California led by acclaimed pianist Green, a former member of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers and the Ray Brown Trio who is widely regarded as one of the top young jazz pianists. His trio includes Ann Arbor native Randy Napoleon on guitar. 9 & 11 p.m., Bird of Paradise, 312 S. Main. \$20 at the door only. 662–8310.

FILMS

M-FLICKS. "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead" (Tom Stoppard. 1991). Today only. Stoppard's film version of his play in which Hamlet's two ill-fated college friends, witty but clueless, are thrust centerstage. Gary Oldman, Tim Roth. \$3.763–1107. Natural Sciences Auditorium (830 North University), 7 & 9:30 p.m. Michigan Theater Foundation. "Billy Elliot" (Stephen Daldry, 2000). December 1–7. Deft, whimsical, and socially conscious drama about a Scottish boy studying dance despite his father's disapproval. Jamie Bell. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, time TBA. State Street Area Association. "It's a Wonderful Life" (Frank Capra, 1946). December 1–3. Sentimental classic about a man who gets a second chance at life on Christmas Eve. James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore. FREE. 668–8480. Michigan Theater, 5 p.m. U-M Center for Chinese Studies. "Dust in the Wind" (Hou Hsiao-hsien, 1992). A teenage couple from rural Taiwan moves to Taipei to find work in this poignant tale of lost love. Mandarin & Taiwanese, subtitles. No children under 12 admitted. FREE. 764–6308. Angell Hall Auditorium A, 8 p.m. U-M Center for Japanese Studies. "The Funeral" (Juzo Itami, 1984). When a motley assortment of relatives are thrown together at a funeral, the results are both funny and moving. Japanese, subtitles. FREE. 764–6307. Lorch Hall Auditorium (Tappan at Monroe), 7 p.m.

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2 SATURDAY

★T'ai Chi. Every Saturday and Sunday. Local martial arts instructor Gabriel Chin leads a session of t'ai chi, which combines an exaggeratedly slow martial art and meditation. 8 a.m., the Cube, north side of Michigan Union. Free. 761–3272.

rustling faded away. White-robed singers in single file carrying lighted candles drifted in along the outer aisles, in step with the hymn's old-fashioned, cathedral-like grace. Reaching the stage, they floated along the inside aisles onto

Medieval court members in sparkling gowns, velvet coats, and spangled tights dance-walked them up the chapel aisles. I couldn't help noticing nonmedieval machine stitching and synthetic fabric, but the participants' obvious joy quieted my quibbling eye, and my senses were soon filled with the stately splendor. The nobles and ladies paused for danced flourishes at the chorus, which we all sang thunderously from the program's Latin.

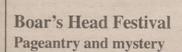
Pages carried in a hairy, seemingly real boar's head, its gory neck covered in greenery, symbolizing victory over Satan. Nobles with heraldic banners and jeweled pomp departed, and the Nativity story's characters entered. I wondered what my sister felt. Did she believe? Had she shut herself out, as I had, from the beauty and the metronomic tedium of the Sunday ritual of redemption and inspiration? Was the festival for her just a colorful pageant or an emotional mixture of doubt and yearning?

The stage held peasants, kings, elders, and children at the birth. Lights dimmed until only a candle flame wavered onstage. There was a long pause in the dark, long enough to think of the Child's message and of the spiritual darkness in failing to understand it.

Amid this trancelike gloom, we jumped as a fretful baby abruptly cried out. Was this an actual tired child or a recording meant to be part of the pageant? My sister didn't know either. When the lights returned, we were both in tears and had found a memory together, full of mystery, that we each cherish.

This year's Boar's Head Festival at Concordia College is December 1-3.

-Laura Bien



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My sister and I had grown apart. We lived only an hour apart but far from the days when I'd been the near-divine older sister. She'd recently had a baby, an experience I fathomed as much as I do quantum physics. I asked her to go to Concordia's Boar's Head Festival with me, hoping that a few moments of unhurried enjoyment might heal the breach resulting from years spent busily apart. We found more than just a pageant.

We found our pew-not good seats, but I'd been glad to get tickets before the festival's annual sellout. We faced one corner of the triangular chapel, which housed a small poinsettia-packed stage from which four aisles radiated to the exits behind us. Ethereal singing floated from beyond the doors as the

*Holiday Bazaar: Dexter Historical Society. Sale of Christmas ornaments, garlands, toys, and more. Also, bake sale. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Dexter Museum, 3443 Inverness at Fourth, Dexter. Free admission.

Craft Show: Saline Community Education. Juried show of 135 crafters from around the Midwest. Christmas greens available. 9 a.m. 4 p.m., Saline Middle School, 7286 Saline–Ann Arbor Rd., Saline. \$2. 429-5922.

Holiday Craft and Bake Sale: Saline Senior Center. Local seniors sell handmade items such as wooden and fabric holiday wall plaques, Christmas ornaments, yard snowmen, and quilts. Bake sale. Lunch and snacks available. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Saline Senior Center, 7605 N. Maple, Saline. Free admis-

*Festival of Lights: Chelsea Area Chamber of Commerce. See 1 Friday. Today: traditional stories of the German St. Nicholas (11 a.m. & 1 p.m., Pierce's Pastries Plus), a visit from Santa (1-4 p.m.) and a Yule Tree Gala (noon-5 p.m.) at the Chelsea Center for the Development of the Arts, 400 Congdon. Also, artists' shop, and live music throughout the downtown. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Annual Holiday Bazaar and Children's Festival: Rudolf Steiner School. Sale of handmade toys and Ornaments made by school parents according to Rudolf Steiner's educational principles. Also, a bookstore featuring Steiner's anthroposophical writings; a kids-only gift room, with gifts priced for children's budgets; and a children's activity corner where kids can decorate cookies and candy and make felt gnomes and a pipe cleaner crown. Caroling, hot cider, tea room, lasagna lunch, bake sale. Entertainment includes a children's theater and performance cafe. Faculty and staff are on hand to answer questions about the school. 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner School, 2775 Newport Rd. Free admission. 995-4141.

★Winter Democratic Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Saturday & Sunday. The as-

sembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. *Note*: Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, change for a phone call, and snacks. 10 a.m. (Saturdays only) & 1 p.m. (both days), meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 913-9851

★"Off the Trail! Exploring Bur Oak Swamp": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads an off-trail search for swamp plants and animals. Wear waterproof boots. 10 a.m.-noon, Parker Mill County Park, Geddes Rd. (just east of US-23). Free. 971—

★"Dinosaur Discovery Day": U-M Exhibit Museum Discovery Day. This family-oriented dinosaur program includes hands-on activities for kids, demonstrations, and more. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, North University at Geddes Ave.

"Children's Holiday Gift-Making": The Scrap Box. December 2, 9, & 16 (different programs). All kids 6 & older invited to drop in for a 30-minute session to make a gift suitable for a mom or grandma, for a pop or grandpa, or for a sibling. 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m., The Scrap Box, 581 State Circle. \$3. 994-0012.

*Pittsfield Open Band Musicianship Session: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. Local musician Glen Morningstar leads this all-day musicians' session on choosing appropriate tunes, directing and following, arranging medleys, and more. Potluck lunch (bring a dish to pass). 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of I-94). Free. 769-4220.

*"TU-SHEA." December 2 & 3. Show and sale of local artist Kathleen Shea's ceramics and oil and watercolor paintings. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (Dec. 2) & noon-5 p.m. (Dec. 3), 2820 Canterbury Rd. (off Platt at Huron Pkwy.). Free. 973-6324.

Annual Holiday Sale: Ann Arbor Potters Guild. December 2 & 3. A popular annual sale held in a university musical society

December Events



Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra Thomas Sheets conductor Saturday, December 2, 8 pm Sunday, December 3, 2 pm

Ring in the sounds of the Christmas season with the UMS Choral Union, performing Handel's beloved oratorio, Messiah. An annual tradition for many UMS patrons, these performances mark the official start of the holiday season. Join us for a spirited "Hallelujah!"

Presented with the generous support of Carl and Isabelle Brauer.

Ute Lemper

Bruno Fontaine piano Saturday, December 9, 8 pm Michigan Theater

In only her second UMS appearance, this German chanteuse will perform music of Kurt Weill, cabaret standards and selections from her new recording, Punishing Kiss.

Presented with generous support of Ronnie and Sheila Cresswell. MEDIA SPONSORS WDET 101.9 FM & MetroTimes

A Gospel Christmas

Rudy Hawkins Singers

Saturday, December 16, 8 pm

Bring cheer to your holiday with the thrilling Detroit-based ensemble, the Rudy Hawkins Singers, in an exciting and high-energy celebration of all your Christmas favorites!

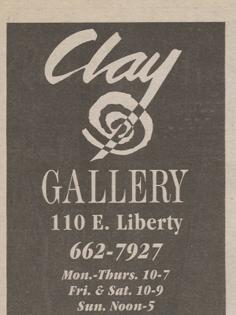


This performance is co-presented with The Arts League of Michigan. MEDIA SPONSOR WEMU 89.1 FM

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A Holiday Invitation From Denmark

Join us on **Dec. 8th and 9th, from 10-4**, when Ivar Ipsen and David Garlikov will present our extensive collection of Georg Jensen sterling jewelry. David will discuss Royal Copenhagen, Orrefors, and Kosta Boda lines.

Holiday Hours in December:
Fridays until 8:30 PM
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Christmas Eve 10:30–2:00 PM,
reopening Wednesday Dec. 27th
Closed New Years Eve,
reopening Wednesday Jan. 3



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EVENTS continued

heated tent outdoors. Some 40 local artists offer a large selection of functional and decorative ceramics, in porcelain and both regular and white stoneware clays. Also, a children's corner, with gifts priced for their budgets. Items go fast—arrive early for the best selection. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 201 Hill St. Free admission. 663–4970.

Winter Sale: Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild. December 2 & 3. Handwoven clothing, basketry, toys, beadwork, handmade paper, felting, hangings, yarns, and quilts. Proceeds from ornament sales to benefit Safe House. Also, fiberarts technique demonstrations. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free admission. 429–9205 971–0165.

★"Quality Health Care Is a Right, Not a Privilege": Gray Panthers of Huron Valley. Talk by Packard Community Clinic founder and director Jerry Walden, named Family Physician of the Year 2000 by the Michigan Academy of Family Musicians. Followed by discussion. Gray Panthers is an intergenerational group dedicated to improving life for people of all ages. Refreshments. 10 a.m.-noon, Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free.

★18th Annual Christmas Creche Display: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. See 1 Friday. 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

★Walk: Grex. Every Saturday (different locations). All invited to join members of this local computer-conferencing group for a walk, either along trails in Bird Hills Park (December 2) or from Gallup Park through the U-M Arboretum (December 9, 16, 23, & 30). 10:15 a.m., meet at the Newport Rd. entrance to Bird Hills Park (Dec. 2) & in Gallup Park parking lot (Dec. 9, 16, 23, & 30), 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 998–0194.

★"X Rays: A Century of Discovery": U-M Physics Department "Saturday Morning Physics." December 2, 9, & 16. U-M physics researcher David Reis discusses the use of X rays in nearly every branch of science, from geology and astronomy to biology and physics. Breakfast refreshments. 10:30–11:30 a.m., 170 Dennison, 501 East University. Free. 764–4437.

*Science Fair Hints for Middle School Students: Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by local pathologist Robert Parker. 10:30–11:30 a.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 345 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–8301.

*"Mornings, Mochas, & Melodies": Pierce's Pastries Plus. This series of concerts featuring upand-coming local and visiting musicians winds up its 2000 season with a visit from St. Nicholas (Joe Weber), who tells Old Country Christmas stories, interspersed with holiday harp music by Laurel Federbush. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Pierce's Pastries Plus, 103 W. Middle St., Chelsea. Free. 327-2041.

★Wee Ones Storytimes: Magic Carpet Books & Wonders. Every Thursday & Saturday. A half hour of fun and stories for kids ages 2–4, accompanied by a parent. Today: Holly Hobbie's Toot & Puddle: Puddle's ABC and other alphabet stories. Also this month: Laura Numeroff and Felicia Bond's If You Take a Mouse to the Movies and more about decorating for the holidays (December 7 & 9), Laura Rader's Santa's New Suit and other tales about Santa Claus (December 14 & 16), Nancy Krulik's Is It Hanukkah Yet? and Mick Inkpen's Kipper's Christmas Eve and other seasonal tales (December 21 & 23), and William Joyce's Snowie Rolie and Rolie Polie Olie (December 28 & 30). 11 a.m., Magic Carpet, Lamp Post Plaza, 2345 E. Stadium. Free. 973–8757.

★Children's Events: Liberty Borders. Every Saturday. Borders staff and guests read stories and lead activities for kids ages 4–10. Today: local storyteller Mama Moon shares stories and songs about Kwanzaa and kids can make a kinara (candleholder). Also this month: ArtVentures brings an international craft (December 9), popular local environmental singer-songwriter Lisa Hunter sings about "Winter Wonders" (December 16), local musician and electronic one-man-band Mr. Laurence performs whimsical kiddie rock (December 23), and visiting environmental educators teach kids about biomes, which are large land or water areas containing varied animals but uniform plant life (December 27). 11 a.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.

Kids Science Shows: Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. Every Saturday & Sunday. Kids can explore winter phenomena at "The Science of Winter," which offers a variety of staffed activity tables (Saturdays, 11 a.m.—4 p.m.). Also, demos about liquid in trogen ("dry ice") and other extremely chilly things in "Brrr... It's Cold" (Saturdays 1 & 3 p.m. and Sundays 2 & 4 p.m.). 11 a.m. and 1, 2, 3, & 4 p.m., Hands-On Museum, 219 E. Huron. \$6 (\$4, students)

& seniors) regular museum admission. 995-5439.

★Dexter's Victorian Christmas: Dexter Area Chamber of Commerce. December 2 & 9. The Dexter of yesteryear is resurrected as carolers stroll the streets and shopkeepers and others dress in Victorian costume. Horse-drawn sleigh rides (nominal fee TBA) available throughout the day. Santa is on hand to talk with kids and have photos taken with them for free. At 1:30 p.m. the Dexter Players present excerpts from their production of Amahl and the Night Visitor (see 8 Friday listing). Also, craft demos by a spinner who spins dog hair into yarn and then knits hats (time TBA, Central Street Station) and (December 2 only) by soapstone carver John Hoskins (noon-4 p.m., Elaine's Gallery). 11 a.m.-4 p.m., gazebo downtown, near Monument Park, Dexter, Free admission. 426–7925.

★Story Hours: Westgate Nicola's Books. December 2 & 9. An hour of stories for kids of all ages by local storytellers LaRon Williams (December 2) and Barbara Schutz-Gruber (December 9). 11 a.m.-noon, Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662-4110.

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Draw Doubles: Ann Arbor Area Disc Induced Sports Club. Every Saturday. All invited to play disc golf at Hudson Mills Metropark's 18-hole disc golf course. Disc golf is a popular sport played with a Frisbee-like disc; the goal is to land the disc in a "pole hole" in the fewest shots. In draw doubles play beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Golf discs available free from the Hudson Mills Metropark office. 11 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. \$4 per player; free for spectators. (Park entry fee: \$3 per vehicle.) 434–1615.

"Fire and Ice": Kerrytown Concert House "Croissant Concert." A popular holiday tradition featuring Today's Brass Quintet, an ensemble of area professional musicians that today performs works by Handel, Stravinsky, Eric Ewazen, Mel Torme, and others. The program concludes with a sing-along of holiday songs and the rousing "Hallelujah" chorus from Handel's Messiah (sheet music provided). Quintet members are French hornist Steven Mumford, trombonist Brian Robson, tubaist Joseph DeMarsh, and trumpeters Jean Moorehead Libs and David Ammer, who also offer commentary about the composers and works. Croissants, coffee, and juice served. 11 a.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$9 & \$12. Reservations suggested. 769–2999.

"Diamond in the Sky"/"Seasons of Light": U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. Every Saturday and Sunday through December 10. Diamond in the Sky (11:30 a.m. Saturdays only and 1:30 & 3:30 p.m. both days) is an audiovisual exploration of the mythology associated with the constellations currently visible in the sky, narrated by Detroit Free Press sports columnist and WJR personality Mitch Albom. Season of Light (12:30 p.m. Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. both days) is an audiovisual show about various ancient and modern solstice celebrations, including Christmas and Hanukkah. Note: A new planetarium show opens December 16 (see listing). 11:30 a.m. and 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, & 3:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, North University at Geddes Ave. \$3 (seniors & children 12 & under, \$2). 764–0478.

"Victorian Christmas on the Farm": Waterloo Area Farm Museum. December 2 & 3. This mid-19th-century German immigrant family's pioneer homestead comes alive with the sights, sounds, and smells of a rural 1880s Michigan Christmas. Natural decorations of cedar, pine cones, nuts, flowers, and herbs festoon the main house, where guides in peri-od costume explain the typical holiday preparations that would have been going on in each room. Christmas music tinkles from the parlor melodeon as aromas of wild game, squash, and potatoes waft from the kitchen's wood stove. Hot spiced cider and cookies available in the farm's separate log cabin, decorated 1850s style. Also, a gift shop with old-fashioned toys, books, handmade soaps and candles, and other stocking stuffers. Refreshments. Noon-5 p.m. Waterloo Area Farm Museum, 9998 Waterloo-Mu-nith Rd., Waterloo Recreation Area, Chelsea. (Take 1-94 west to exit 153 and follow Clear Lake Rd. to Waterloo Village.) \$1 admission. 426-9135

★ Creative Expressions Group: Ozone House. Every Saturday. Drop-in group for gay teens, teens of gay parents, and straight friends to participate in art projects, discussion, and fun. 1–4 p.m., Ozone House, 1705 Washtenaw. Free. For information, call Rob at 662–2265 or E-mail creative.expressions@juno.com.

★Jennifer Watson and Dave Marx: Traver Village Nicola's Books. Talk by these collaborators on Passporter Walt Disney World, a travel guide, organizer, journal, and keepsake book for the voyage to Walt Disney World. 1–3 p.m., Nicola's Books, Traver Village Shopping Center, 2607 Plymouth Rd. Free. 662–6150.

*"Michigan's Heritage Barns": Liberty Borders. Photographer Mary Keithan signs her book of b&w photos of Michigan barns. 1 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

★Open Rehearsal: Peter Sparling Dance Company. Open rehearsal, accompanied by a talk by company director Peter Sparling, of *Traffic*, a new trio of choreographed by company members Lisa Catrett-Belrose ("Red"), Tim Smola ("Yellow"), and Julianne Pedersen ("Green"), portraying the emotions sparked by the color commands of traffic lights. It premieres at the Performance Network in January. 1-3 p.m., Dance Gallery Studio, 111 3rd St. (off Huron). Free. 747-8885.

German Family Christmas: Kempf House Center for Local History. December 2, 3, 9, & 10. This restored 19th-century Greek Revival home is decked out with decorations and exhibits reflecting a typical turn-of-the-century German-American celebration of Christmas. 1-4 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division.

*Children's Story Hours: Traver Village Nicola's Books. December 2 & 9. An hour of stories by local storytellers Badria Jazairi (December 2) and Barbara Schutz-Gruber (December 9). 2-3 p.m., Nicola's Books, Traver Village Shopping Center, 2607 Plymouth Rd. Free. 662-6150.

*Children's Events: Arborland Borders. Decen ber 2, 9, & 16. Activity sessions for kids, with crafts, music, guests, or costume characters. Today: local storyteller Mama Moon shares Jewish songs and folktales, and shows kids how to make a dreidel. Also this month: Mama Moon shares Christmas stories and songs and kids make an angel ornament (December 9), and a storyteller TBA tells African American and African tales for Kwanzaa, and kids make a kente cloth wall hanging with ashanti printing (December 16). 2 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washte-naw. Free. 677-6948.

*"100 Favorite Mysteries of the Century": Aunt Agatha's. Drood Review editor Jim Huang and Aunt Agatha's co-owners Jamie and Robin Agnew are on hand to sign copies of this book Huang edited, a col-lection of essays by booksellers around the country. The list of the century's top mysteries was selected by the Michigan Booksellers Association. 2–4 p.m. Aunt Agatha's, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769–1114.

*Cajun/Zydeco Jam. December 2 & 16. All musicians invited to join this lively jam. 3-6 p.m., Pitts-field Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of 1-94). Free. 213-5209.

32nd Annual Holiday Ballet: Ypsilanti Area Dancers. December 2 & 3. This local company of children and adult dancers performs The Nutcracker, Tchaikovsky's beloved Christmas ballet, based on an E. T. A. Hoffmann story, about a little girl whose magical nutcracker doll transports her to a wondrous fairyland on Christmas Eve. Directed by Marjorie and Anthony Randazzo and Sara Randazzo-Rodriguez. 3 p.m., Ypsilanti High School, 2095 Packard. Tickets \$15 (children 12 & under, \$10) in advance in Ann Arbor at Dancer's Boutique (2414 E. Stadium Blvd.) and the Salvation Army (100 Arbana), and in Ypsilanti at the Randazzo Dance Studio (722 Lowell); and at the door. 482–8559.

*"The Art and Science of Dreams": GalleryOne. Local artist Susan Grant and University of Texas sleep research scientist John Herman discuss the connections between artistic and scientific perspectives on dreams. Grant's experience at the UT sleep lab both as a subject and as a researcher with Hermaninspired Night Journey, her exhibit currently on display at GalleryOne (see Galleries). 3:30-5:30 p.m., WCC GalleryOne, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free.

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*African American Book Club: Westgate Nicola's Books, All invited to discuss Mama Day, Gloria Naylor's novel about a healer on an island off the Georgia coast who serves as a younger woman's link to her family's past. 4 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. Information: Veleria Banks at 942–6013.

*Women's Glee Club: U-M School of Music. Theodore Morrison and Alissa Mercurio conduct this U-M student ensemble in a program of 20thcentury compositions for treble choir. 6 & 9 p.m., U-M Museum of Art. Free. 764–0583.

*Reception: Greg Sobran Fine Art. Opening reception for this exhibit of oils and watercolors by lo-cal artist Sobran. 6-8 p.m., Greg Sobran Fine Art, 3481 W. Ellsworth at Wagner. Free. 996-0406.

"The Grand Ball: Celebrating St. Joe's Past, resent, and Future": 25th Annual St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Holiday Ball. This lavishly decorated gala includes cocktails and a gourmet dinner, followed by ballroom dancing to the Detroit-area band Vizitor, featuring vocalist Lori Courturier. Addisc ditional music during dessert in the League's side rooms. This annual fund-raiser is one of the largest and most successful in the country. Proceeds benefit the hospital's Campaign for Women's Health. 6 p.m.-l a.m., Michigan League. \$1,000 & \$1,250 per couple. Reservations required. 712-4040.

Holiday Party: Ann Arbor Ski Club. A festive, elegant evening of cocktails, a buffet dinner, and dancing to music by DJ Jim McDonald. Bring a new, wrapped gift, to be donated to a local senior citizens' home. 6:30 p.m., Crowne Plaza Hotel, 610 Hilton Blvd. \$48 (members, \$40). Preregistration re-

★Open Role-Playing Gaming Night: The Underworld. Every Saturday. All invited to play any of the role-playing games that the Underworld carries, but you must find your own opponents. 7 p.m.-midnight, The Underworld, 1202 South University.

Game Night: Druids of Shining Lakes Grove. All invited to join local pagans for an evening of games, snacks, and socializing. Bring your favorite game to play. 7–11 p.m., 1216 Jay Avenue, Ypsilanti. (Take Michigan Ave. to Grove St., go south on Grove to Georgina, then left on Georgina to Jay.) \$6 at the door, 487-4931

*Modern Acoustic Music Collective: Liberty Borders. Top Cleveland musicians, including guitarists Ryann Anderson and Doug Wood and singer-songwriters Alexis Antes and Robin Stone, perform folk-flavored selections. 7 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

*"Remembering Maura, Ita, Dorothy, and Jean": Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. Deb Regal leads St. Mary's Student Chapel students in Margaret Swedish's play about the political mur-ders of 4 churchwomen in El Salvador 20 years ago. Preceded by a 6 p.m. potluck (bring a dish to pass). 7 p.m., St. Mary's Student Chapel, 331 Thompson. Free. 663-1870.

★"Peer Gynt": U-M Residential College Drama Concentration. See 1 Friday. 7 p.m.

*Monthly Meeting: Ann Arbor Smocking Group. Informal "sit 'n' stitch" gathering for those interested in the English art of embroidery known as smocking and in heirloom sewing. All invited. 7:30 p.m., location TBA. Free. 663–7867.

Dexter Twirlers Square Dance Club. December 2 & 16. Modern western square dancing to recorded music, with caller Glen Geer. All experienced dancers invited. Preceded by round dancing (7:30 p.m.). Refreshments. 8–10:30 p.m., St. Andrew's United Church of Christ, 7610 Ann Arbor Rd. at Fourth, Dexter. \$8 per couple. 433-0308.

First Saturday Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. John Freeman calls contra dances to music by the Top Drawer String Band. Wear comfortable clothes and bring flat, smooth-soled shoes for dancing. 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of 1-94). \$7 (\$6 AACTMAD members). 769–1052.

*"Special Events": The Neutral Zone. December 2, 9, & 16. A variety of fun social activities at this local teen center. Tonight: a dance party with DJ Mr. Holsome (\$5). Also this month: a fund-raising concert of music TBA (December 9, cost TBA) and a karaoke slam (December 16, call to register to sing). 8 p.m.-midnight, The Neutral Zone, 637 S. Main St. (the old Ark bldg.). Free (unless otherwise noted above). 214-9966.

Folk Dance Party. Easy to intermediate Balkan and Israeli line dances (no partner needed). Live music by the Ethnic Connection, a popular local ethnic music ensemble, and Veselba, a local Bulgarian folk ensemble led by Bruce Sagan. Preceded by lessons (7 p.m.). 8 p.m., The Barn at Gretchen's Place, 2625 Traver Road. \$6 (\$4 for nondancers). 662–5253.

*"Dancing for Life": U-M AIDS Awareness Week. An evening of dance to recorded music TBA.
Proceeds to benefit Camp Rainbear, a local summer camp for children with AIDS. 8 p.m.-midnight, Michigan Union Anderson Room & U-Club. Tickets \$10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone call 653-TKTS.

Saturday Concerts: Canterbury House. December 2, 9, & 16. Benefit performances by U-M music-students. Tonight: cellists Erika Pierson and Colin Meek perform solo cello works by Hindemith, Crumb, Martinu, and Britten. Also this month: Kopstein leads the Octagonists in original jazz compositions (December 9), and the James Ilgenfritz Trio, with Ilgenfritz, Sarah Weaver, and Dan Bennett, performs free improvisations (December 16). Proceeds benefit the Hunger Coalition. 8–10 p.m., Canterbury House, 721 E. Huron St. \$5 (students, \$3). 764–3162.

Fall Concert: U-M Gimble. This 15-member U-M student a cappella chorus performs everything from pop to jazz to madrigals. Also, a guest a cappella group TBA. 8 p.m., East Hall auditorium, 525 East University. Tickets \$6 & \$4. 222–4874.

★Sean Duggan: Washtenaw Community College.

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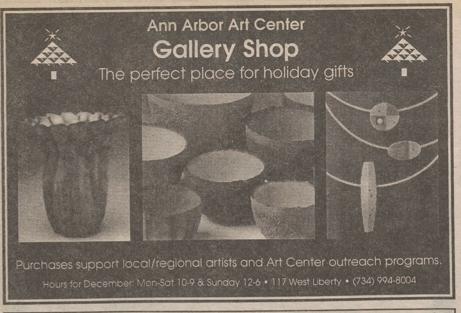


Greg Sobran New Paintings of 2000



Fishing Boats of Nice, Oil on Linen 16"x20"

Opening Saturday, December 2 through Sunday, December 17 at his schoolhouse-studio at the corner of Ellsworth and Wagner Road. Hours: 11 am to 7 pm. New works from France, Sardinia, Florida and Northern Michigan. Further information: (734) 996-0406. website: www.sobrangalleries.com



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Casting Shadows Photographs·by Edward West

December 2, 2000 to January 28, 2001

The 35 large-scale color photographs by this associate professor in the U-M's School of Art & Design explore life in post-apartheid South Africa. Stirring and evocative, they depict the daily lives of black South Africans during a period of societal transformation.

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525 South State Street, Ann Arbor Events Hotline: 763.UMMA http://www.umich.edu/~umma/ Admission is free. Galleries are closed on Mondays.

December 2 & 3 (different programs). Part of a series (under various auspices) of 15 concerts, covering J. S. Bach's complete works, by this award-winning pianist, a Benedictine monk and principal or-ganist and music director of St. Joseph Abbey near Covington, Louisiana. Tonight: three of Bach's six French Suites. Note: Duggan performs additional concerts at EMU (see 6 Wednesday listing) and at the U-M music school (see 14 Thursday listing). 8 p.m., WCC Morris J. Lawrence Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 973–3519.

Handel's "Messiah": University Musical Society. December 2 & 3. The annual University Choral Union performance of Handel's beloved oratorio, featuring a thunderous sing-along of the "Hallelujah" chorus, has been an Ann Arbor tradition ever since organist (and U-M president) Hehry Frieze led an impromptu community chorus in the spring of 1879, a performance that led to the formation the next winter of both the Choral Union and the UMS Thomas Sheets directs the chorus and members of the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. The soloists, all established professionals with national or international reputations, include soprano Danielle de Niese, contralto Jane Gilbert, tenor Stanford Olsen, and bass-baritone Dean Ely. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$12-\$20 in advance at the Power Center and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

Mare Winningham: The Ark. Twangy, chiming country-rock and pop-folk by this singer-songwriter who's most widely known as a TV and film actress (she played the folksinger sister in Georgia). 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$15 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticket-master outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone,

"A Christmas Carol": EMU Theater of the Young. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

"The Sorcerer": U-M Gilbert and Sullivan Society. See 1 Friday. 2 & 8 p.m.

"Fuddy Meers": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

Elliott Branch: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase. See 1 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Benny Green Trio: Bird of Paradise. See 1 Friday.

M-FLICKS. "Pink Flamingos" (John Waters, 1972). Today only: Two disgusting, occasionally funny families battle for the title of "Filthiest People Alive," in this cheesy, graphic tale almost smart enough to be campy. Stars Divine. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; Michigan Theater members, \$4.75). 763–1107, 761–8667. State Theater, midnight. Michigan Theater Foundation. "Voices" (Jack Fishstrom, 2000). Today only. Contemporary family drama about a shy doctor besieged by his sis ter, a rebellious single mom, and his niece, a loud-mouthed teen. Shot in Ann Arbor, Cleveland, and Chicago by this Hopwood Award-winning local director (and U-M technical communications lecturer). \$10. 668–8480. Michigan Theater, 7 p.m. "Psycho Beach Party" (Robert Lee King, 2000). December 2-5. Silly send-up of old beach flicks. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, 9:45 p.m. "Billy El-liot" (Stephen Daldry, 2000). See 1 Friday. Mich., time TBA. SSAA. "It's a Wonderful Life" (Frank Capra, 1946). See 1 Friday. Mich., 3 p.m. U-M Modern Greek Studies/Hellenic Student Associa-tion. "Rembetiko" (Costas Ferris, 1983). Set in the context of the political and cultural turbulence of mid-20th-century Greece, this award-winning film is a fictionalized biography of Marika Ninou, a renowned singer of rembetiko, a music of urban Greek outcasts similar to the blues. With haunting original rembetiko compositions by Stavros Xarhakos. Greek, subtitles. FREE. 764–7469. Angell Hall Auditorium A, 7 p.m.

3 SUNDAY

*Falun Gong Instruction. Every Sunday. Local practitioners introduce this Chinese physical and spiritual discipline, which consists of five gentle exercises concluding with meditation. 9-11 a.m., Gallup Park canoe livery, 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. For information, call 668-

★"Sunday Bank Run": Ann Arbor Track Club. Every Sunday. All invited to join AATC members for all or part of a 14-mile training run along roads ringing the city. 9 a.m., TCF Bank parking lot, 2400 S. Huron Pkwy. at Platt Rd. Free. For information, call Dan Gamble at 995-5505.

★Zen Meditation: Buddhist Society for Compassionate Wisdom. Every Sunday. Meditators from all traditions are welcome to join in meditation to develop awareness and concentration. In the morning, two 25-minute meditation periods with a break be tween, followed by a short talk by Zen Buddhist Temple resident priest Sukha Murray. In the evening, meditation and chanting, followed by a talk and a Q&A period. 9:30-11 a.m. & 5-6:30 p.m., Zen Buddhist Temple, 1214 Packard at Wells. Free; donations accepted. 761-6520.

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Conservatory Tour: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. December 3, 10, & 17. Docents lead an informative tour of the conservatory and discuss "Foods from around the World." Also, today only, a free docent-led outdoor tour to explore "Signs of Life in the Winter Landscape." Toasty outdoor clothing and footgear recommended. 10 a.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. \$3 (kids 6-12, \$1; kids 5 & under, free) regular conservatory admission, 998-7061

★"Owl Meadow Hollow": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. WCPARC nat uralist Matt Heumann leads a hike and discusses the wildlife in this open area of the park. 10 a.m.-noo Park Lyndon North, North Territorial Rd. (15 miles west of US-23), Chelsea. Free. 971-6337

"An Ocean Between": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship. Retired U-M Dearborn electrical engineering professor William Becher discusses his historical novel about the experiences of 84 English children evacuated to the U.S. during WW II. 10 a.m., Burns Park Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin.

Hanukkah Bazaar: Beth Israel Congregation. Traditional and unusual Judaica, along with local tisans' handcrafts. Also, a children's corner with gifts priced for small people's budgets. Lunch, fea-turing scrumptious latkes (potato pancakes) made from scratch and served from 11:30 a.m. 10 a.m. :30 p.m., Beth Israel Congregation Social Hall, 2000 Washtenaw. Free admission. Wheelchairaccessible. 665-9897.

*Chinese Meditation: Ann Arbor Chapter of the International Yan Xin Qigong Association. Every Sunday. All invited to discuss and practice this Chinese form of meditation. 10:30 a.m.-noon, 1014 Dow, 2300 Hayward, North Campus. Free. 764-

*"Public Lam Rim Teachings with A'dzom Rinpoche and Traktung Rinpoche": Dam Tsig Foundation. Every Sunday. These local American-born Tibetan Buddhist lamas offer Tantric Buddhist teachings and music from the Flaming Jewel Ter lineage. 10:30-noon, Flaming Jewel Dharma Center, 211 E. Ann. Free. 663-3842.

★"The Gospel of John": Knox Single Adult Ministries. Every Sunday. All single adults age 25 & older invited to join a Bible study. 10:45 a.m. Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 2065 S. Wagner at Scio Church Rd. Free. 971–1793.

*First Singles: First Presbyterian Church. Every Sunday. A weekly program open to all single adults age 50 & older interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. This week: talk by new First Presbyterian campus minister Graham Baird. Also this month: First Singles member Marcy Toon leads a tour of the U-M Grad Library (meet at the south entrance on South University) exhibit "From Papyri to King James: The Evolution of the English Bible" (December 10), First Singles coordina-tor Susan Whitlock leads a discussion of "What Is Hope and Why Is It a Virtue?" (December 17), and informal fellowship (December 24 & 31). Also, members meet for breakfast every Saturday at 10 a.m. at Cafe Marie in the Courtyard Shops (1759 Plymouth Rd.). 11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662-4466, ext. 43.

*Spiritual Discussion: Eckankar of Ann Arbor. All invited to discuss soul travel, dreams, karma, reincarnation, self-realization, and God-realization. 11 a.m., Eckankar, 410 W. Washington, Suite 32. Free. 994-0766.

★"Elmo's Jingle Bell Walk": People's Food Coop. Local fitness guru Elmo Morales leads a 60-minute window-shopping fitness walk through town to the Arb that finishes in time to join the Children's Holiday Parade (see listing below). Come in costume and wear jingle bells, if you like. 11 a.m., meet at People's Food Co-op, 216 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0500.

Ann Arbor Artisan Market. Every Sunday. This popular seasonal arts market features a wide variety of local artisans' fine arts and crafts, including jewelry, stained glass, paintings, photographs, clothing, and household items. Also, plants and produce in season. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Ann Arbor Farmers' Market. Free admission. 994-FARM.

*18th Annual Christmas Creche Display:

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. See 1 Friday. 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

*Newcomers Day: Karma Thegsum Choling. KTC staff members introduce Buddhist thought and demonstrate basic meditation practices. Refreshments. 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., KTC, 614 Miner (off Miller). Free. 761–7495.

*Adult Forum: First Unitarian Universalist Church. December 3, 10, & 17. Today: Hemlock Society founder Faye Girsh discusses "The Right to Die Movement: Maine and Beyond." Also this month: First Unitarian minister Eva Hochgraf discusses her upcoming trip in "A Passage to India" (December 10), and First Unitarian minister Ken Phifer answers congregants' questions about theology, politics, and baseball from the "Question Box" (December 17). 11:45 a.m., First Unitarian Church sanctuary, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. at Ellsworth. Free. 665-6158.

Bird Hills Meet: Southeastern Michigan Orienteering Club. All invited to try this at-your-ownpace sport of reading maps and compasses alone or with friends of any age to follow a preset outdoor course. Bring outdoor clothes and a compass; maps and some rentable compasses available at site. No experience necessary; instruction available. Noon-3 p.m., Bird Hills Park (off Down Up Circle from Newport Rd.). \$5 (SMOC members, \$4; beginners, \$3). 429-1057.

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Silent Meditation: Essence Point. Every Sunday. Two unguided 25-minute silent meditation periods with a short break in between. All welcome. Noon-1 p.m., Guild House, 802 Monroe at Oakland. Donations appreciated. 913–9830.

*"Ahava: The Jewish LesBiGay, Transgender, and Friends Collective": U-M Hillel. All invited to a potluck brunch (bring a vegetarian dish to pass), socializing, and a chance to write letters to government representatives in support of World AIDS Day. Noon, 1429 Hill St. Free. 769-0500.

*Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club. Every Sunday. All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. Noon-3 p.m., Eberbach Cultural Arts Bldg., 1220 S. Forest at Wells. Free. 913-5831.

*First Sunday Hot Sauce Tasting: Tios Mexican Cafe. Tios manager Tim Seaver offers samples of the hundreds of hot sauces and salsas available at this popular Mexican diner. Work your way through 100 sauces and you'll get a free T-shirt. Noon-4 p.m., Tios Mexican Cafe, 333 E. Huron. Free. 761–6650.

*12th Annual Children's Holiday Parade: Main Street Area Association. Kids of all ages are invited to don a costume if they like and join a downtown street parade starring Santa and Mrs. Claus, whose reindeer-drawn sleigh leads floats, families (strollers welcome), city fire engines, public school buses, costumed animal characters, and area high school marching bands (kids receive kazoos to play along). Scout and Brownie troops and children's groups of any kind can march together with an identifying banner. The parade starts at the Federal Building and goes down Liberty to Fourth Avenue to Washington to Main to the Detroit Edison parking lot at William, where a petting farm is set up. Afterward, free hot chocolate and cookies are available at Palio. Also, all invited to donate new toys for needy children to the SOS Community Toy Chest at 306 S. Main (next to Jules). Noon (assemble), 12:30 p.m. (parade), Federal Bldg., E. Liberty at S. Fourth Ave. Free. 668–7112.

*Senior Sunday Fun Bunch: Ann Arbor Public Schools Senior Adult Program. Every Sunday. All seniors age 55 and older invited for an afternoon of Socializing. Activities include a potluck (1–1:30 p.m.) and bridge and euchre (1:30–3:30 p.m.). Participants are welcome to bring their own games. Bring a dish to pass and own table service. Newcomers welcome. 12:30-3:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 769-5911.

*"Realities of Life under Apartheid": U-M Museum of Art ArtVideos. Every Sunday & Wednesday through December 20. An ongoing series of video screenings. Today: On Being a White African features Bill Moyers and Nobel Prize-winning author Nadine Gordimer. Also this month: Mama Awethu! examines the daily lives of 5 black South African women (December 10 & 13); and Winds of Change features reporter John Davis's 1990 travels through South Africa and interviews with Nelson Mandela (December 17 & 20). 1 p.m. (Sun.) & 12:10 p.m. (Wed.), UMMA audiovisual room, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 764-0395. *"Realities of Life under Apartheid": U-M Mu-State at South University. Free. 764-0395.

*"First Sunday Free": ArtVentures Studio (Ann Arbor Art Center). All children and their parents invited to make a holiday card with wax, an iron, and sandpaper prints. 1–4 p.m., AAAC, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 994–8004.

7th Annual Benefit: Avalon Housing. Latin-flavored jazz by Bruce Dondero's Latin Jazz Quintet, an ensemble of veteran local favorites led by bassist Dondero. With saxophonist and flutist Paul Vornhagen, pianist Sven Anderson, drummer Sean Dobbins, and conga player Norm Shobey. Proceeds to benefit Avalon, a 8-year-old local nonprofit agency that currently owns and manages over 141 units of affordable housing for low-income individuals and families in 19 sites scattered around town. Also, ceremonies recognizing support for Avalon's work by retiring city councilwoman Tobi Hanna-Davies, city police officer Douglas Martelle, and Children's Creative Center director Laurie Atwood. Hors d'oeuvres. 1-4 p.m., The Earle, 121 W. Washington. Tickets \$35 (\$60 for two) in advance and at

★"Ship Passenger Lists": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. Talk by Library of Michigan librarian Randy Riley. Followed by a class on "Citing and Evaluating Sources" by club member Connie Olson. 1:30 p.m., McAuley Health Center Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off E. Huron River Dr.). Use parking lot "P" and look for the club's signs. Free. 483–2799.

★"Animal Origami": Waterloo Natural History Association. Waterloo Recreation Area park interpreter Lisa Gamero shows how to use this Japanese paper-folding art to make animal shapes. 2 p.m., Gerald E. Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd., Chelsea. (Take 1-94 west to exit 157, follow Pierce Rd. north to Bush Rd., and go west on Bush Rd. The Discovery Center is on the left.) Free. Preregistra-tion required. \$4 vehicle entry fee, unless you already have a state motor vehicle permit (\$20 per year). 475-3170.

*Dinosaur Tours: U-M Exhibit Museum. December 3, 9, & 10. Thirty-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. 2 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, North University at Geddes Ave. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour.

★"Merry Mice and Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops/Workbench Furniture. 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and rollicking fun, with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. 2 p.m., Workbench Furniture, Kerrytown. Free. 769–3115.

★"A Journey Through Space": Saline District Library "Scientists among Us" Series. For kids ages 3 & older, a talk by U-M Exhibit Museum plan-etarium director Matthew Linke on how astronauts travel safely to outer space and back, what a balloon can teach us about the inside of a star, and more. Refreshments. 2 p.m., Saline District Library, 555 N. Maple, Saline. Free. 429–5011.

★Gallery Talk: U-M Museum of Art. Ann Sinfield, curator of the current *Plant Life* exhibit (see Galleries), discusses artists' responses to the diversity of plant forms. 2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 764–0395.

Alternative Holiday Fair: First Baptist Church/ Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. This holiday sale encourages less consumer-oriented ways of celebrating the holidays. It features handmade arts and crafts, jewelry, and Christmas decorations from Third World countries and a chance to help pay for farm animals such as poultry, rabbits, swine, and fish (some on hand and available for petting) to go to needy farm families. Also, calendars, cards, T-shirts, a book table, strings of Japanese peace cranes, and other items to benefit local, national, and international peace and justice organizations. 2-6 p.m., First Baptist Church, 512 E. Huron. Free admission.

Handel's "Messiah": University Musical Society. See 2 Saturday. 2 p.m.

"The Sorcerer": U-M Gilbert and Sullivan Society. See 1 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Fuddy Meers": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 2 p.m.

Monthly Meeting and Potluck: Vegetarian Information Network & Exchange. Program: "All about Hemp," with samples of hemp foods and hemp fabric and information on the environmental advantages of raising hemp as a sustainable crop. Preceded by a vegan (no dairy, egg, or honey) potluck. Bring a dish to pass (with recipe), serving utensil, plates, cutlery, and cup. 2:30 p.m., Guild House, 802 Monroe at Oakland. \$1 (members, free). 428-3426

Marching Band Concert: U-M School of Music. James Tapia leads the regalia-bedecked band in tra-ditional U-M songs and music from this fall's half-time shows. 2:30 p.m., Crisler Arena. Tickets \$6 (children 11 & under, \$2) in advance at the M-Den (333 E. Stadium), the Revelli Bldg. (350 E. Hoover), and at the door. 764–0583.

"A Christmas Carol": EMU Theater of the Young. See 1 Friday. 2:30 p.m.

*Ann Arbor-Motown Hash House Harriers.



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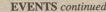
Mark Rothko Mark Nothko
Untitled (Four Figures
in a Plaza) (detail),
ca. 1937, oil on linen,
National Gallery of Art,
Washington, Gift of The Mark
Rothko Foundation, Inc.,
1986,3,3,112 Photograph © Board of Trustees, National Gallery of Art, Washington

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Fifteen canvases, some rarely or never before exhibited, reveal the early figurative work of this seminal American painter. Images of isolation, fragility and tragedy, often haunting and surreal, show Rothko's work in a fresh and fascinating light. This exhibition has been made possible in part through the generosity of the Friends of the Museum of Art.

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chapter of an unorthodox running club for people who like to make a game of running. Each runn task is to follow a trail designed to be confusing. The usual result is that the lead (i.e., fastest) runners run the longest distance, so that runners of varying abilities complete the course in nearly the same time. Each run includes at least one pit stop (with beer and pop hidden along the way) and is followed by a trip a nearby restaurant. 3 p.m. (Sun.) & 6:30 p.m. (Mon.), location TBA. Free. For location and infor mation, visit the group's website (www-personal. umich.edu/~ronmoore/a2h3) or call 332-9314.

★"Holiday Pops 2000": Ann Arbor Civic Chorus. Rebecca Vlisides directs this community chorus in seasonal favorites and a salute to songwriter John-ny Mercer, featuring "Dream," "Autumn Leaves," "Blues in the Night," "Come Rain or Come Shine," "Moon River," and more. 3 p.m., Slauson Middle School, 1019 W. Washington. Free. 994–2300, ext.

13th Annual Festival of Lights: Village of Chelsea. See 1 Friday. The festival concludes today with a concert by the Congdon Quartet, which performs Pachelbel's Canon and Gigue, Borodin's Quartet in D Major, and Haydn's Quartet in D Minor. The performances are preceded by brief discussions about the works and their composers. Refreshments. 3 p.m., Chelsea Depot at Jackson St. Chelsea. Tickets \$12.50 (seniors, \$10; students & children, \$5) in advance in Chelsea at Zou Zou's 101 N. Main) and Art & Soule Gallery (123 S. Main) and at the door. 433-1622.

32nd Annual Holiday Ballet: Ypsilanti Area Dancers. See 2 Saturday. 3 p.m.

★Lindsay Tomasic: Common Ground Bookstore. Folk-rock originals by this L.A.-based singer-songwriter, a former Ann Arborite best known as a member of the popular local 80s duo Trees. She performs songs from her new CD, *Paradise Road. 4 p.m., Com*mon Language, 215 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 663-0036.

Ann Arbor Grail Singers. Lynn Malley leads this noted local early music vocal ensemble in a holiday concert of Gregorian chant, Gothic English carols, and unusual 17th-century polyphonic works, crowned by a dazzling 8-part piece celebrating the Christmas season. Featured soloist is veteran local soprano Lorna Hildebrandt. 4 p.m., St. Thomas Church, 517 Elizabeth at N. State. \$12 (students & seniors, \$9). 995-5320.

*Michigan Chamber Players: University Musical Society. U-M conducting professor H. Robert Reynolds conducts this U-M music faculty ensemble in Mozart's spirited Grand Partita and Messiaen's moving Quartet for the End of Time, written in 1941 when the composer, a member of the French Army, was imprisoned in a German POW camp. Performers: violinist Paul Kantor, cellist Anthony Elliott, clarinetist Fred Ormand, pianist Phillip Bush. 4 p U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

*Arianna String Quartet: EMU Music Department. The 1994 grand prize winner at the presti-gious Fischoff Chamber Music Competition, this former EMU quartet-in-residence returns to perform program highlighted by Haydn's Quartet in E-flat Major. Also, works by Britten, Ravel, and others. 4 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.

★"The Complete Organ Works of J. S. Bach": U-M School of Music. December 3 & 17. Internationally acclaimed U-M faculty organist James Kib-bie performs organ works by J. S. Bach to commem-orate the 250th anniversary of his death. The 17th of 18 concerts this year that cover all 266 of Bach's ornn works, today's program includes Christmas and Advent chorales, chorales from the Kirnberger col-lection, duetti from Clavieruebung, Volume III, and "Kibbie's performances are persuasive. His registrations are colorful and effective, [and] he roars through the most complex passages with dazzling facility," notes the American Record Guide. 4-5 p.m., U-M Music School Organ Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus.

Improvisation Theater: Tilt. December 3, 10, & 17. All invited to try a fun, easy session of improvisa-tional acting, led by Steve Petersen. Beginning to experienced actors welcome. After a few sessions, the troupe will plan a show, and members can either act or help with production. 5-7 p.m., Ann Arbor Civic Theater, 408 W. Washington. \$1 donation. 669-

*"Grapevine": First Presbyterian Church. December 3, 10, & 17. All singles ages 40-60 invited to bring a dish to pass for a potluck dinner and conversation. This month's conversation-starter topic is "Families and Faith." Beverage & table setting

provided. 6-7:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church fellowship hall, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662-4466, ext. 43.

★Morris Dancing: Ann Arbor Morris & Sword Dancers. December 3, 10, & 17. All invited to try this English ceremonial dance dating back to medieval times. No experience necessary. Wear softsoled shoes. Members perform in costume on May Day and other occasions throughout the year. 6-8 p.m., Gretchen's House Learning Center, 2340 Oak Valley Dr. Free. For information, call Jill Baker at 623-8374.

II-V-I Orchestra: Heidelberg Restaurant. Every Sunday except December 24 & 31. Dancing to late-30s swing and 40s R&B by this veteran local big band led by Urbations saxophonist David Swain. 7-9:30 p.m., Heidelberg Restaurani (3rd floor), 215

*41st Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols: EMU Music Department/Campus Ministries. Measure for Measure, a local men's chorus, joins the EMU University Choir, Chamber Choir, and Women's Glee Club to present the Christmas story through a program of alternating text and song adapted from the famous Christmas Eve service at King's College, Cambridge (England). Leonard Riccinto and Ernest Brandon conduct. 7 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.

Willy Porter: The Ark. The surprise hit of the 1998 Ann Arbor Folk Festival, Porter is a pop-folk singer-songwriter from Milwaukee who gets most of his attention for his intricately virtuosic acoustic guitar playing. The songs on his debut Private Music CD, Dog Eared Dream, span a wide range of moods, from the trucker-inspired "Jesus on the Grille" and the girl-in-the-diner ode "Glow" to the erotic mysticism of "Watercolor." 7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$15 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

Weekly Meeting: U-M Ballroom Dancers. December 3 & 10. Ballroom dancing to recorded music, in cluding fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded by rumba (4–5:30 p.m.) and samba (5:30–7 and 7–8 p.m.) lessons and practice. 8–10 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. \$2. 763-6984.

*Euphonium Recital: U-M School of Music. Concert by U-M tuba and euphonium students o U-M music professor Fritz Kaenzig. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

★Sean Duggan: Washtenaw Community College. See 2 Saturday. Tonight: the remaining 3 French Suites. 8 p.m.

Man or Astro-Man: SFX/Ritual Productions. Over-revved, somewhat edgy surf instrumentals by this Alabama quartet whose stage show evokes a somewhat campy sci-fi ambience. Opening acts are the Rock*A*Teens, an Atlanta-based band that plays echo-heavy postpunk guitar rock, and Sweep the Leg Johnny, a jazz-influenced postpunk power-pop band from Chicago. 9:30 p.m. (doors open at 9 p.m.), The Blind Pig. 208 S. First. Tickets \$10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666; for information, call 996–8555.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Bamboozled" (Spike Lee, 2000). Today only. Heavy-handed satire about a frustrated African American TV writer whose wild idea of reviving the minstrel show with an all-black cast—leads to a smash hit TV show. Damon Wayans. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, 8:30 p.m. "Psycho Beach Party" (Robert Lee King, 2000). See 2 Saturday. Mich., 6 p.m. "Billy Elliot" (Stephen Daldry, 2000). See 1 Friday. Mich., time TBA. SSAA. "It's a Wonderful Life" (Frank Capra, 1946). See 1 Friday. Mich.,

4 MONDAY

★Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus Every Monday except December 25. All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. Gini Robison directs. 10-11:45 a.m., West Side Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh at Davis. Free to first-time visitors (\$40 per semester membership dues). 677-0678.

*Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center. Every Monday except December 25 begin at 11 a.m. with "Fitness Fun" (\$3), a 60minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. At noon, a homemade luncheon buffet (\$4, \$3 with

reservations). The weekly program also includes meetings of the Writing Group (1 p.m.). All invited. 11 a.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

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Weekly Luncheon Series: M Club of Ann Arbor. December 4, 11, & 18. A weekly lunchtime talk by U-M men's basketball coach Brian Ellerbe, with a second talk by men's tennis coach Mark Mees (December 4), athletic marketing coordinator Tom Brooks (December 11), and women's water polo coach Amber Drury-Pinto (December 18). 11:15 a.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. Lunch cost: \$7 (seniors, \$6.50). For more information, call Ben Fairman at 668–6702.

*"The Politics of Nature and Identity in Stalinist Landscape Art": U-M Center for Russian and East European Studies Brown Bag Lecture. Talk by University College London cultural and political geography reader Mark Bassin. Bring a bag lunch. Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free.

*"Glen Canyon Adaptive Management Program: A Model of Successful Adaptive Management": U-M Ecosystems Management Initiative. Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center di-rector Barry Gold discusses his efforts to restore the Grand Canyon's natural water flow and habitat by changing the Glen Canyon dam's water flow so that it mimics natural flows. Noon, 1046 Dana, 430 East University. Free. 615-6431.

*"Antigone in Africa": U-M English Department Visiting Writers Series. Renowned South African playwright Athol Fugard discusses issues of justice, the state, and individual morality raised in his one-act play *The Island.* In 1960, Fugard was one of the first to publicly speak out against apartheid Also, Fugard gives a reading tomorrow (see listing) and introduces tonight's screening of Boesman and Lena (see Films below). 5 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. 647-6471

*Feldenkrais Method: Movement Learning Systems. December 4, 11, & 18. Local Feldenkrais practitioner Katherine Rogers introduces a movement reeducation method that makes people aware of how they can move more easily. Wear loose, comfortable clothing. 6:30-7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin Ave. Free to first-time visitors. 971–5285.

*Weekly Meeting: Huron Valley Toastmasters. Every Monday except December 25. Members give speeches and are critiqued by their audience. A chance to develop confidence in speaking publicly. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by dinner in the cafeteria. Note: Different Toastmasters chapters meet every Wednesday & Thursday (see listings). 7–9 p.m., U-M Main Hospital cafeteria, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free to visitors. Dues: \$48 a vear (after a onetime nonrefundable fee of \$16).

*Craft Day: Druids of Shining Lakes Grove. December 4 & 18. All invited to join local pagans to make decorative and gift items. Materials provided. Children welcome; adult supervision recommended. 7-9 p.m., 1315 S. Maple Rd., apt. 106. Free. 662–5639.

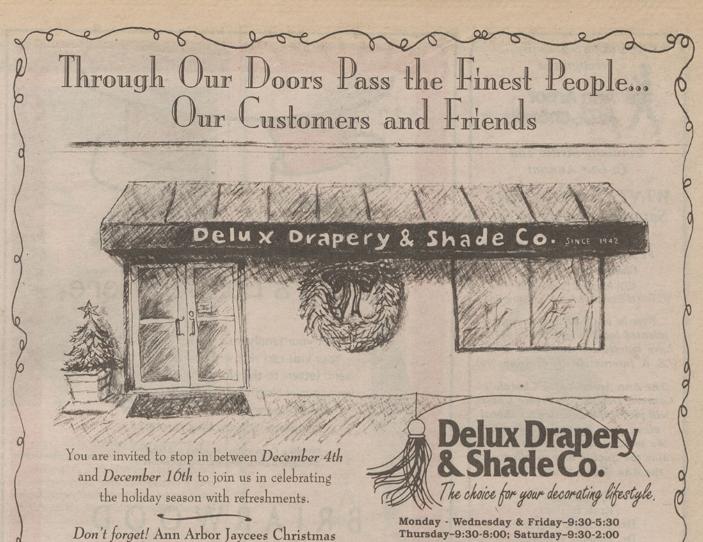
*"Pottery Painting": Arborland Borders. December 4 & 11. Local pottery painting studio Feat of Clay members visit with bisqueware (items kilnfing). fired one time). Participants can paint the item, to be kiln-fired again into permanently decorated ceramics. Today: a Christmas tree ornament. Also this month: a Hanukkah dreidel (December 11). 7 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration re-

Open Meeting: Washtenaw Chess Club. Every Monday (except December 25) & Wednesday. All invited to play chess with their peers. Chess sets & clocks provided. 7–11 p.m., Chess Express, 220 S. Main (below Elmo's Supershirts). \$3 (first-time visitors, free). 665–0612.

*Weekly Meeting: The Barony of Cynnabar. Every Monday except December 25. All invited to Join this local chapter of the Society for Creative Anachronism to work on re-creating different aspects of medieval culture, including heraldry, costuming, embroidery, and other crafts. 7 p.m., 1305 EECS, L301 Beal, North Campus. Free. For information, call Bill Rayl at 973-8825.

"Messages for the Millennium": Crystal Clear Expressions. Nanci Rose Gerler channels spiritual messages from various masters, guides, and angels. 7–9 p.m., location TBA. \$12. Reservations requested. 996–8799.

*"Buying a Home Without Losing Your Shirt": The Buyer's Agent. Real estate professionals lead a discussion on first-time home buying, including the search process, negotiation, mortgages, and closings.



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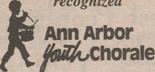
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EVENTS continued

7–8:30 p.m., The Buyer's Agent, 1900 W. Stadium. Free. Preregistration required. 662–6240.

"Playwrights' Meeting": Ann Arbor Playwrights. December 4 & 18. Local and visiting playwrights read Miriam Kirscht's 611 Plum Street. Also this month: a Shorts Night, with readings of short plays (December 18). 7 p.m., Performance Network, 120 E. Huron, Courthouse Square. \$3 suggested donation, 971–AACT.

★"Show and Tell": Ann Arbor Area Civil War Round Table. Club members show and briefly discuss Civil War-related objects, including diaries, photographs, weapons, uniforms, paintings, and more. Public invited. 7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off Huron River Dr.), Superior Twp. Free. 930–0617.

"Women and Philanthropy": The Women's Center of America. Raymond James Financial Services investment vice president Andrea Duda discusses how selective giving by women can promote positive changes. 7–9 p.m., Women's Center, 334 E. Washington. Donation. Preregistration required. 973–6779.

★"A Recipe for Health": People's Food Co-op. Chris Storti discusses how to integrate nutrition, supplements, exercise, bodywork, and relationships to create a healthy life. 7–8:30 p.m., PFC, 216 N. Fourth Ave. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4589.

★"Birds of North America": Liberty Borders. Birding legend and Audubon magazine editor Kenn Kaufman, who at age 16 hitchhiked 80,000 miles back and forth across North America in one year in search of birds, discusses his new field guide, whose bird portraits employ a controversial new enhanced photo technique. 7 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.

"Bread Making": Zingerman's Bakehouse. Zingerman's Bakehouse owner Frank Carollo talks about bread making and the different varieties Zingerman's makes (with taste samples). Also, participants knead, shape, bake, and take home a loaf of Zingerman's rustic Italian bread. Proceeds donated to Food Gatherers, a local organization that collects excess fresh food from restaurants and markets to distribute to local shelters and other organizations with food programs. 7–9 p.m., Zingerman's Bakehouse, 3711 Plaza Dr. \$15. Space limited; reservations required. 761–2095.

★Ken Cormier: EMU English Department. This performance poet and singer-songwriter with a penchant for comedy was a longtime fixture on the local poetry scene before moving to Boston in 1997. Tonight he reads from Balance Act, his new collection of poetry and prose exploring the underside and outer edges of the suburban psyche that ranges from melancholy musings to over-the-top hilarity. Also, fiction readings by EMU creative writing students Eleanor Loikits and Rachel Mowery-Dufner. 7 p.m., McKenny Union Intermedia Gallery, EMU campus, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–4220.

★"What Should American Jews Do When Israel Is under Siege?": U-M Hillel. Talk by Knesset Peace Prize-winning rabbi David Forman, who has lectured at the Nobel Institute and UN International Human Rights Forum. 7:30 p.m., 1429 Hill St. Free. 769-0500.

★"Revolt of the Daughters-in-Law: A View of Uzbek Domestic Life Through Film": U-M Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies. U-M anthropology grad student Morgan Liu discusses and shows excerpts from a film set in 1980s Uzbekistan that offers a rare look at daily life in a large Uzbek courtyard household. 7:30 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764–0350.

*Weekly Rehearsal: Out Loud Chorus. Every Monday except December 25. Beginning to advanced singers invited to join this chorus for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Memorial Christian Church, 730 Tappan. Free. 973-6084.

Weekly Meeting: Dream Group. Every Monday except December 25. All invited to join local social worker Rebecca Mullen to discuss their dreams from Jungian, Buddhist, and other spiritual perspectives. 7:30 p.m., location TBA. \$5 donation. 662–5925.

*1st Monday Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society. All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Music provided; bring your own music stand. Also, various small ensembles meet other Mondays. 7:30-9 p.m., Clonlara School, 1289 Jewett (between Packard and South Industrial). Free to first-time visitors (\$30 annual dues). 769-1616.

Israeli Dancing: U-M Hillel. December 4 & 11.
Tom Starks leads 30 minutes of instruction for be-

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Ute Lemper Kurt Weill meets rock

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The Weimar Republic was "decadent," we are told, and its greatest musical figure, Kurt Weill, had a sophistication and bitterness rooted in an overheated world that the Nazis swept away. A 1920s composer of satiric, cabaret-style, jazz-inflected musicals such as The Threepenny Opera (the source of "Mack the Knife") and Mahagonny, Weill fled the Nazis and had a successful Broadway career. Now he's undergoing a revival, one largely brought to fruition by German singer Ute Lemper. Lemper, a veteran at age thirty-five, raises her children in New York, wears a lot of black leather, and speaks with a good German's sense of unease with the homeland: "I can't actually stand to live in Germany," she told the New York Time in Germany." York Times. "It drives me mad to have all those Germans around."

Now Lemper is on to something new. Her new CD, Punishing Kiss, is largely given over to compositions by contemporary rock songwriters: Elvis Costello, Nick Cave, Tom Waits, and Neil Hannon of a British group called Divine Comedy. Jim Morrison bruited the affinity between Weill and artrock when Lemper was a baby, but until now no one else has taken it up. The connection is clear: both have no language to speak but that of the dance hall. Each may twist the popular language in which it is based and may comment upon it, but neither has anything to replace it with. Maybe we are all Berliners, but not quite the kind John Kennedy imagined.

There is only one Weill song on Punishing Kiss, a techno-ized "Tango Ballad." But in Lemper's hands it anchors materials that might otherwise seem to have little to do with one another. Waits's quiet, curious tales of losers here follow naturally from the ris-



ing anger of a woman who is drowning (metaphorically or really) in Cave's "Little Water Song" or from Hannon's big, bombastic, literate synth-pop. In Costello's three songs Lemper finds the Beatle-esque, carnival side of his personality behind the punk facade the public knows best.

Lemper has all the chops necessary to carry this off. She's a beauty who can't help making you think of Marlene Dietrich, and technically she's a marvel, with many shades and growls and whispers and ranges. For her December 9 show at the Michigan Theater, Ute Lemper plans a program consisting of half Kurt Weill and half Punishing Kiss. It's certainly an unclassifiable concert. Judge for yourself the connections it makes.

-James M. Manheim

ginners, followed by open dancing. 7:30-10 p.m., 1429 Hill St. \$3. 769-0500.

*"Monday Evenings with Stephen McLean": LifeTouch Chiropractic, December 4 & 18. Talks by local chiropractor Stephen McLean. Today: "Network Chiropractic's Influence on Environ-mental Illness." Also this month: "Transformation Through Network Chiropractic Care and the 12 Stages of Healing" (December 18). 8 p.m., Life-Touch Chiropractic, 1210 N. Maple Rd. at Miller. Free, but reservations requested. 668–6110.

*"Free from the Internet: Sharing or Stealing?": U-M Hillel. Panel discussion by major players in the red-hot imbroglio concerning Internet and copyright law. Tonight's speakers: Artists Against Piracy founder Noah Stone, interim Napster CEO Hank Barry, U-M executive VP for academic affairs James Hilton, and artists and musicians TBA. 8 p.m., Michigan Union. Free. 769–0500.

*EMU Jazz & Percussion Ensembles: EMU Music Department. John Dorsey and Mike Hall direct these two music-student ensembles in a program of upbeat jazz standards and contemporary works. 8 P.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's. Every Monday except December 25. Local high school English teacher Geoff Cost throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. 9–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. \$5 per team. 665–2968.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Boesman & Lena" (John Berry, 2000). Today only. When a white landowner evicts a black couple during South Africa's apartheid era, their homeless wanderings lead to trouble. Adapted from the play by Athol Fugard. Danny Glover, Angela Bassett. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, 7:30 p.m. "Psycho Beach Party" (Robert Lee King, 2000). See 2 Saturday. Mich., 9:45 p.m. "Billy Elliot" (Stephen Dela Control of the Control of Daldry, 2000). See 1 Friday. Mich., time TBA.

5 TUESDAY

Senior Health Day: St. Joseph Mercy Health System. All seniors invited to a morning of health-related activities, beginning with health screenings (8:30-9:30 a.m.), followed by a health expert's talk on "Beating the Holiday Blues" (9:30 a.m.), and a cooking demo (with recipe) culminating in lunch (11 a.m.). 8:30 a.m.-noon, Health Stop, Briarwood mall. \$15 (screening and/or lecture only, \$5). Preregistration required. 827-3777.

*Drop-In Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library. December 5-7 & 12-14 (different branch locations). Stories, songs, and finger plays for preschoolers age 3 and up. An adult must be present in the library but need not attend. 9:30-10 a.m., AADL West (Dec. 5 & 12), Loving (Dec. 6 & 13), & Northeast (Dec. 7 & 14) branches. Free. 994-1674, 994-2353, 996-3180.

★Children's Storytime: Arborland Borders. Every Tuesday & Thursday. Borders staff read a variety of children's tales. Followed by milk and cookies (\$1). 10 a.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free.

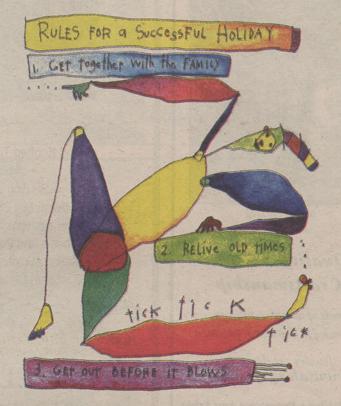
Coffee with Faculty: U-M Alumni Association. December 5 & 11. Coffee & pastries, followed by talks by U-M faculty members. Tonight: U-M Biological Station director James Teeri discusses "Elevated Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide: Will There Be Climate Surprises?" Also this month: U-M provost Nancy Cantor and U-M Museum of Art director James Steward discuss "Creating a New Museum for a Great Public University" (December 11). 10 a.m.—noon, U-M Alumni Center, 200 Fletcher. \$10. Reservations required. 763—9707.

*"Grafted Capitalism: Ownership Change and Labor Relations in Chinese Firms": U-M Center for Chinese Studies Brown Bag Lecture. Talk by U-M political science professor Mary Gallagher. Bring a bag lunch. Noon-1 p.m., 1636 SSWB, 1080 South University. Free. 764-6308.

★"Popular Modernism: Middle-Class Appropri-ation of Modern Architecture in 1950s Brazil": U-M Institute for the Humanities Brown Bag

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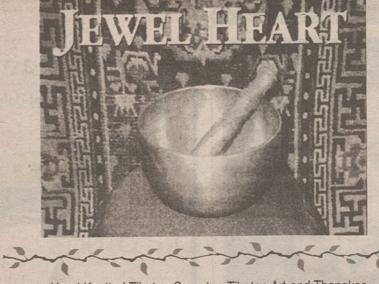
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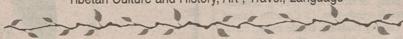
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EVENTS continued

Lecture. Talks by U-M architecture grad student Fernando Lara. Bring a bag lunch. Noon, 1524 Rackham. Free. 936–3518.

★"Whistleblowing, Arbitration, and Mediation": American Association of University Professors. Talks by local attorney Jeffrey Herron, U-M law professor emeritus Theodore St. Antoine, and local attorney and mediator Zena Zumeta on how to im-prove the process for resolving disputes between faculty members and the administration. Followed by discussion. Noon, Michigan Union Pond Room.

*Jewish Older Adults: Jewish Community Center. Every Tuesday except December 26. All seniors invited to attend a series of talks by Washtenaw Community College instructor emeritus David Pollock on "Michigan History/History on Wheels" (10:30–11:10 a.m.) and to join the Reminiscence Group (11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.), a discussion group led by U-M Project Star intern Leah Stein. Also, mah-jongg (12:30 p.m.) and/or join the ABC Quil-ters (1-3 p.m.) to make quilts for HIV-infected ba-bies. 12:30-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

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*Holiday Luncheon: Newcomers Club of Ann Arbor. All newcomers to the Ann Arbor area invited to a potluck. Bring a hot dish, salad, or dessert to pass. 12:30 p.m., Ann Arbor Women's City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. Reservations required.

"Ann Arbor's Forest Hill Cemetery and the 19th-Century Rural, Romantic Cemetery Move-ment": U-M Detroit Observatory Lecture Series. Talk by U-M Bentley Historical Library archivist Sally Bund. 3 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory meet-ing room, 1398 E. Ann St. at Observatory St. Free.

★"Queering the Moderns: Poses/Portraits/Performances": Shaman Drum Bookshop Publication Party. U-M English professor Anne Herrmann is on hand to sign copies of her recently published study. Refreshments. 4–6 p.m., Shaman Drum Book-shop, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.

*"Image into Identity: The Irish Create Themselves Through Greek Tragedy": U-M Classical Studies. Lecture by University of San Diego classics professor Marianne McDonald. 4 p.m., 2175 Angell Hall. Free. 764-0362.

★"Shulchan Ivrit (Hebrew Table)": American Movement for Israel. December 5 & 12. Conversa-tion group for all speakers of Hebrew, "whether you speak two words or speak like a sabra [native-born Israeli]." 5 p.m., Amer's, 611 Church St. Free. 769-

"Searching the World Wide Web": Ann Arbor District Library. A hands-on introduction to web search and metasearch engines and subject directories. Open to all AADL cardholders. 7 p.m., AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall, 2713 Plymouth Rd. \$5. Preregistration required. 996–3180.

*Monthly Meetings: Common Thread. December 5 & 19. All knitters invited to meet members of this local knitting group and exchange tips. 7 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677–6948.

*"A Gathering of Peace": The Free Daist Com-munion. Every Tuesday. Prayer vigil for peace featuring the teachings of Adi Da, Western-born guru Heart Master (formerly known as Da Free John). All invited. 7 p.m., location TBA. Free. 741–0432.

★Weekly Rehearsal: Sweet Adelines County Connection. Every Tuesday. All women invited to listen to or participate in the weekly rehearsals of this local 30-member barbershop harmony chorus. 7–10:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off 1-94), Ypsilanti. Free to first-time visitors (\$18 monthly dues for those who join). 995–4110.

*"'Milford Beauties Out and About' Calendar": Westgate Nicola's Books. December 5 & 9 (different Nicola's locations). Models from this calendar reaturing Milford women, "not young but young at heart," say organizers, are on hand for signing. 7–9 p.m. (Dec. 5), Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center; afternoon time TBA (Dec. 9), Traver Village Nicola's. Free. 662–4110, 662–6150.

*"What Is Falun Gong?": Liberty Borders. Local practitioners of this meditative Chinese physical and spiritual discipline show an explanatory video and lead a session of easy exercises. Wear comfortable clothing. 7 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free.

Track Workout: Ann Arbor Track Club. Every Tuesday. Runners (and walkers) of all ages and abilities welcome. Now in their 25th year, the Track Club's workouts are a popular means for runners to train and be timed at various distances. 7:30-8:30 p.m., U-M Track & Tennis Bldg., Hoover at S. State. \$1.663-9740.

*"A Guide to the Bodhisattva Way of Life": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. Every Tuesday. Talk by Gelek Rinpoche, an incarnate lama from Tibet who currently lives in Ann Arbor. Occasionally, the talk is given by Rinpoche's longtime student Aura Glaser (former owner of Crazy Wisdom Bookstore) or a visiting speaker. 7:30 p.m., Jewel Heart Buddhist Center, 207 E. Washington. Free, but donations are accepted. 994-3387.

*German Speakers' Round Table. Every Tuesday. All German speakers invited for conversation. 7:30 p.m., Cafe Zola, 112 W. Washington. Free admission. 665-2931.

Community Education Series: Dawn Farm. December 5 & 12. Local professionals discuss sub-stance abuse and related issues. Tonight: a panel discussion by Dawn Farm residents and staff members on "Treatment and Recovery." Also this month: social workers Jason Schwartz and David Garvin discuss "Domestic Violence and Addiction" (December 12). 7:30 p.m., Dawn Farm, 6333 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free; donations accepted. Preregistration required. 485-8725.

*"Teens Using Drugs: How to Know and What to Do": Community Action on Substance Abuse. December 5 & 12. 2-part lecture series by veteran local social worker Ron Harrison. 7:30–9 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, EC4, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from Huron River Dr.), Superior Twp. Free. 973–7892.

*Biweekly Meeting: Ann Arbor Camera Club. Members show their recent slides and prints. 7:30 p.m., Forsythe Middle School, room 310, 1655 New-Port Rd. at Sunset. Free (\$10 annual dues for those who join). 663-3763, 665-6597.

*"Homeopathy and Flower Essences: History and Uses": People's Food Co-op Herbal Wisdom Series. Hands-on demonstration by local holistic health practitioner Linda Feldt. 7:30–9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4589.

*"Should Michigan Inland Lakes Be Used to Treat Domestic Sewage: A Case Study": U-M Science Research Club. Talk by Water Quality Investigators consulting limnologist Wallace Fusilier. Refreshments. 7:30–10 p.m., G-390 Dental Bldg., 1011 North University. (Entrance is from 3rd level of the Fletcher St. parking structure.) Free. 763-5678, 761-4320.

*Spanish Readers Group: Barnes & Noble. Henry Ford Community College English instructor Pedro SanAntonio leads a discussion (in English and Spanish) of 2 short detective novels by Chilean novelist Luis Sepulveda, *Diario de un killer sentimental* and *Yacaré*. 7:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3245 Washtenaw. Free. 677–6475.

*Literary Night: Conor O'Neill's. Every Tuesday. All invited to read and discuss classic, contemporary, or your own prose and poetry. Led by Jack Gillard (son of the Ann Arbor News columnist), who begins each evening with a reading from Irish literature. 7:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main.

*Weekly Rehearsal: Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of SPEBSQSA. Every Tuesday. All male singers invited to attend the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. 7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to first-time visitors (\$73 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance for instructions. For information, call John Paglione at 971-2720.

Weekly Meeting and Rehearsal: Ypsilanti Community Band. Every Tuesday. All musicians invited to join this 50-member post-high-school adult band (no auditions necessary) directed by Jerry Robbins. The band plays a variety of music, including show tunes, marches, and classics, at several concerts annually. Music and stands provided. Visitors welcome. 7:30–9:30 p.m., 105 EMU Alexander Bldg. Lowell at E. Circle Dr., Ypsilanti. Free. 485–4048, 769–2425.

*Athol Fugard: U-M English Department Visiting Writers Series. This renowned South African playwright (see 4 Monday listing) reads from Cousins: A Memoir, his 1997 memoir of coming of age in racist South Africa. 7:30 p.m., Rackham Am-Phitheater. Free. 647-6471.

Swing Dance Jam. Every Tuesday. Swing dancing, including the jitterbug, the lindy hop, and other styles, to recorded music at an informal dance on a wooden dance floor. No formal instruction, but experienced dancers are usually willing to share different moves. Beginners welcome; no partner necessary. 7:30–9:30 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver Rd. (off Nixon Rd.). \$2. 973–2654.

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Ann Arbor Singles Ballroom Dancers. Every

Tuesday. Ballroom dancing to live music by Detroitarea bands. All singles invited; married couples also welcome. Refreshments. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a dance class (\$3). Dress code observed. 8-11 p.m., Grotto Club of Ann Arbor, 2070 W. Stadium. \$5 (members, \$4). (517) 423-0677.

Michael Salinger: Ann Arbor Poetry Slam, Surreal, edgy performance poetry by this Cleveland poet, founder of the Nova Lizard Project performance troupe. Also, open mike readings, which usually draw an engaging variety of accomplished poets and entertaining monologists in verse, and a "poetry slam," in which poets read one of their works in each round of a tournament-style competition for a \$10 prize and the heady adrenaline rush that accompanies victory. Note: The AAPS holds its midmonth "Dog Slam" on December 19 (see listing). 8–11 p.m., Club Heidelberg (above the Heidelberg Restaurant), 215 N. Main. \$4. For information, call Larry Francis at 426-3451.

*Jazz Combos: U-M School of Music. Donald Walden directs student jazz ensembles. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

★EMU Collegium Concert: EMU Music Department. Anthony Iannaccone directs EMU music faculty and students in an all-Bach program that includes the *Brandenburg* Concerto no. 5, Cantata 192, and the motet "Jesu meine Freude." 8 p.m., Holy Trinity Chapel, 511 W. Forest, Ypsilanti. Free.

*University Choir: U-M School of Music. Jerry Blackstone conducts this U-M student ensemble in Randall Davidson's oratorio *The Fourth Wise Man*, a Christmas parable that includes the Three Wise Men, angels, a new mother mistaken for the Virgin Mary, and a dissatisfied candy seller longing to enlarge his life. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

Paddy Keenan: The Ark. Traditional Irish music by this celebrated uilleann piper, a founding member of the Bothy Band, whose performances are known for their passion and wild melancholy. Opening act is the Irish troubadour Sean Tyrrell. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$13.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticket-master outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. December 5 & 19. Historical and traditional English dances, led by Don Theyken, Eric Arnold, and Shirley Harden, with live music by David West and Donna Baird. Partners, previous experience not necessary. Comfortable nonslip walking shoes recommended. Preceded by beginning (7 p.m.) and intermediate (7:45 p.m.) lessons on December 5 & 19. The December 19 dance is followed by the annual winter solstice party. Festive dress. Bring a snack or dessert to share. 8:30–9:45 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd., \$5.662–5158.

Jewish Community Center. "Night at the Movies." Every Tuesday except December 26. Video showings of feature films, with pizza and pop. Tonight: Blazing Saddles (Mel Brooks, 1973), a riotous 1973 send-up of Western movies. Cleavon Little, Gene Wilder, Harvey Korman, Madeline Kahn, Slim Pickens. Free. 971–0990. JCC (2935 Birch Hollow Dr. off Stone School Rd.), 6 p.m. Michigan Theater Foundation. "Harold and Maude" (Hal Ashby, 1972). Today only. Dark comedy about the love affair between a death-obsessed young man and a spry octogenarian, with music by Cat Stevens. Bud Cort, Ruth Gordon. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, 7 p.m. "Bad Lieutenant" (Abel Ferrara, 1992). Grim, graphic, street-level view of a NYC cop gone unbelievably bad. Harvey Keitel. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, 4:10 p.m. "Psycho Beach Party" (Robert Lee King, 2000). See 2 Saturday Mich. 9 p.m. "Pills Plice" (Stocker Dall). day. Mich., 9 p.m. "Billy Elliot" (Stephen Daldry, 2000). See 1 Friday. Mich., time TBA.

6 WEDNESDAY

"The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse": Wild Swan Theater. December 6-10. This awardwinning local children's theater presents local screenwriter Jeff Duncan's song-sprinkled adapta-tion of the Aesop fable about the grass seeming greener for both the sophisticated urban mouse Jessica and her rusticated relative Jessie Lee. Each envi-ously visits the other's world with results both unexpected and hilarious. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language. Audio description and backstage "touch" tours are available by prearrangement for blind audience members. Cast: Sandy Ryder, Michelle Lanzi, David Haig, Carrie Noesen, Jeff





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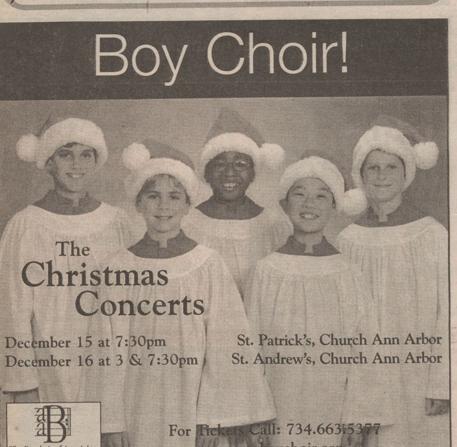
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Girl Scouts-Huron Valley Council.

Girl Scouts.





EVENTS continued

Duncan, Kim Willett, and Elaine Riedel. Music by Tom Schnauber. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris J. Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets \$8 (children, \$6) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS. To arrange tours or audio description, call 995–0530.

*Wednesday Winter Ride: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Wednesday. The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. 11 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 994–5908 & 663–4498 (today's ride), 913–9851 (general information).

*Advent Organ Recital Series: First Presbyterian Church Thursday Forum. December 6, 13, & 20. Recitals by local organists. Today: organist Tim Huth is accompanied by flutist Jonathan Sills. Also in the series: organists Timothy Tikker (December 13) and Deborah Friauff (December 20). 12:15–12:45 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division at Catherine. Free. 662–4466.

"Moving Beyond the Basics": Ann Arbor District Library. AADL staffers offer a hands-on introduction to the finer details of using a web browser, including using bookmarks, saving to disk, and evaluating websites. Open to all AADL cardholders. 2 p.m., AADL training center (3rd floor), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. \$5. Preregistration required. 327–4550

"Buhrrr Blast": Ann Arbor Parks Department. Every Wednesday. A variety of activities for kids. 4–5:45 p.m., Buhr Park outdoor ice rink, 2751 Packard Rd. \$2.50. 971–3228.

★Weekly Meeting: Ann Arbor Toastmasters Club. Every Wednesday. Members give speeches and are critiqued by their audience. Note: Different Toastmasters chapters meet every Monday & Thursday (see listings). 6:15–7:45 p.m., Concordia College Science Bldg., 4090 Geddes Rd. Free to visitors. Dues: \$24 semiannually. 995–7351.

Weekly Meeting: Ann Arbor Bridge Club. Every Wednesday. Each 2-person team plays 2 or 3 hands against a dozen or so other pairs during the evening. Players at all levels welcome. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early to arrange for one. 7–11 p.m., Walden Hills Clubhouse, 2114 Pauline at Maple. (Park on the north side of Pauline.) \$3 per person. 971–7530.

*Monthly Meeting: Huron Valley Model Builders. All invited to join a show-and-tell discussion. Bring your model car. 7 p.m., Lakeview Mobile Home Park clubhouse, 9910 Gerraldine, Ypsilanti Twp. (take 1-94 to Huron St. exit and head south, turn left on Textile, turn right on Bunton). Free. 481-1044.

★The African Diaspora Book Discussion Group: U-M Center for Afroamerican and African Studies. All invited to discuss a reading TBA (readings are available at the CAAS library). 7 p.m., location TBA. Free. 764–5513.

★Home Buyer Seminar: Huron Valley Financial. Mortgage consultant Martha Mackres and senior mortgage broker Kim Blair discuss the home-buying process. Participants receive a comprehensive information packet. Q&A. Refreshments. 7 p.m., HVF, 315 E. Eisenhower. Free. Preregistration required. 669–8000.

★Matthew Ruby: Liberty Borders. Searching, energetic songs by this singer-songwriter. 7 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.

moe.: SFX/Ritual Productions. This popular Buffalo, New York, quartet is known for its silly stage antics and its extended Phish-style jams blending elements of funk, jazz, and rockabilly. 7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$15 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645–6666.

*Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center. December 6, 13, & 20. All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky. Aaron offers a talk and answers personal and universal questions. Also, socializing. 7:30 p.m., 3455 Charing Cross Rd. (off Packard just west of US-23). Free, but donations are accepted. 971–3455.

*"Introduction to Steiner's Thought": Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor. Every Wednesday. All invited to discuss one of Rudolf Steiner's basic anthroposophical books, Christianity as Mystical Fact. 8-9:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 994-3496.

★Monthly Meeting: Thai Speaking Group. Thai

speakers of all levels of proficiency invited to get together for conversation. 8–9 p.m., Cafe Zola, 112 W. Washington. Free admission. 741–9010.

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★Biweekly Meeting: Scandinavian Folk Music Group. All musicians invited to join this group to perform Scandinavian folk tunes. The group is led by fiddler Bruce Sagan, who teaches some new tunes and stylings at each meeting. Newcomers welcome. 8 p.m., 2110 Fulmer Ct. (from Fulmer St., off Miller east of Maple Rd.). Free. 327–3636.

★ "How to Use Your Eyes": Shaman Drum Bookshop. Art Institute of Chicago professor James Elkins reads from his acclaimed collection of essays exploring a various elements of the visual world, from Egyptian hieroglyphs and fingerprints to a sunset. Signing, refreshments. 8 p.m., Shaman Drum Bookshop, 315 S. State. Free. 662–7407.

★Campus Band: U-M School of Music. U-M music students Miller Asbill and Damon Talley conduct this U-M student ensemble in works by Knox, Shostakovich, Broege, and U-M alum Frank Ticheli. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0583.

★Sean Duggan: EMU Music Department. December 6, 9, & 11 (different programs). See 2 Saturday. Tonight: 15 Inventions, 15 Sinfonias, and Fantasia and Fugue in A Minor. Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. 8 p.m.

★Koo Nimo: U-M Residential College. The foremost exponent of "high-life," the acoustic guitar music of Ghana also known as "palm-wine guitar music," Nimo is currently an RC visiting instructor. Tonight he leads an ensemble of his students in a performance showcasing the royal drum ensemble and guitar traditions of Ghana. 8 p.m., RC Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 763–0176.

Paul Thorn: The Ark. Dark, bluesy, sharp-witted, pungently idiomatic original songs, alternately tough and tender, by this up-and-coming Mississippi singer-songwriter whose debut CD, Ain't Love Strange, has provoked comparisons to Lyle Lovett. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$13.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.

*Weekly Meeting: Shorinji Kempo. Every. Wednesday. All invited to try this Japanese self-defense system, which combines hard and soft techniques with Zen philosophy. 8:30-10:30 p.m., Dance Gallery Studio, 111 Third St. at W. Huron. Free to first-time visitors (\$25 monthly dues). 332-1780

Swing Dancing: U-M Michigan Union. December 6 & 13. All invited to strut their lindy hop or East Coast swing moves to recorded music. Preceded by beginning (7:30 p.m.) and intermediate (8:30 p.m.) lessons. 9:30 p.m., Michigan Union U-Club, 530 S. State. \$3.763–5911.

FILMS

MTF. "Billy Elliot" (Stephen Daldry, 2000). See 1 Friday. Mich., time TBA. U-M Michigan League. "Cider House Rules" (Lasse Hallstrom, 1999). Video showing of John Irving's adaptation of his novel about a boy raised in a Maine orphanage (and abortion clinic) by an eccentric doctor. Michael Caine, Tobey Maguire. FREE. 763–4652. League Underground, 911 North University, 8 p.m.

7 THURSDAY

Annual Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale: Chelsea Community Hospital. Sale of crafts, including wall hangings and Christmas ornaments. Also, a bake sale with pies, coffee cakes, and a choose-your-own-cookies bazaar, with gift-ready cookie tins available. Raffle of a decorated tree and handmade afghan. 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Chelsea Community Hospital main dining room, 1105 S. Main, Chelsea. Free admission. 475-3913.

7th Annual Conger Holiday Art Market: Lucile B. Conger U-M Alumnae Group. Sale of works by 31 area artisans, including dolls, coats, jewelry, painted glass, collectibles, pashmina shawls, beaded watches, boiled wool clothing, hand-knit sweaters, hand-painted clothing, enameled egg ornaments, chenille blankets and scarves, and more. Proceeds benefit scholarships for U-M women. Also, the Conger Group hosts its annual "Holiday Home Tour" today (see below). 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m., Barton Hills Country Club, 730 Country Club Rd. \$5 admission. 996–8679.

Holiday Home Tour: Lucile B. Conger U-M Alumnae Group. A tour of 4 area homes, all within a short drive of each other, spectacularly decorated for the holidays by professional designers. Proceeds benefit scholarships for U-M women. Ticket includes admission to the Holiday Art Market (see above). 10 a.m.-8 p.m., various locations. Tickets

\$15 in advance at Heslop's, Back Alley Gourmet, Vintage to Vogue, the Westgate and Traver Village Nicola's Books; \$20 at the holiday art market and each tour home. 995-8370.

"The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse": Wild Swan Theater. See 6 Wednesday. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

*Thursday Lunch Bunch: Jewish Community Center. Every Thursday. A weekly program of activities primarily for seniors. The program begins at 10 a.m. with "Adults at Leisure Coffee Hour," a social support discussion group led by local social worker Phyllis Herzig that offers a chance to socialize, listen to music, tell jokes, and relax. At 11 a.m., educational or cultural presentations. Today: local folk musician San Slomovits and the Hebrew Day School Choir sing original songs about "Pirke Avot," and Sydney Bernard leads a discussion about "Sayings of Our Fathers." Also this month: U-M English professor Enoch Brater discusses "Arthur Miller of St. A Louish American Playwright" Miller at 85: A Jewish American Playwright" (December 14), a Hanukkah celebration with children from the JCC Early Childhood Center (December 21), and a "Movie Day" featuring viewing and discussion of a film TBA from the Jewish Heritage Video Collection (December 28). At 1 p.m., Current Events, a discussion group led by nonagenarian rent Events, a discussion group led by nonagenarian Ben Bagdade. The program concludes with a meeting of the Senior Literary Group (2:15–3:15 p.m.), a book discussion group led by U-M Dearborn English professor emeritus Sidney Warschausky. Also, basic computer tutoring for beginners (10 & 10:30 a.m. and 2 & 2:30 p.m.). All invited. 10 a.m.—3 p.m., JCC. 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.

*Children's Story Time: Barnes & Noble. Every Thursday except December 28. Barnes & Noble staffers present storytelling programs and craft activities for kids ages 2–9. Today's topic: "Counting," Also this month: "Winter Holidays" (December 14 & 21). 11 a.m. & 7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3245 Washtenaw. Free. 677–6475.

*Industrial Design Student Trade Fair: U-M School of Art & Design. Student teams display intriguing solutions to a wide range of specific design problems, and members of the public can the best solution. 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Media Union Gallery, 2281 Bonisteel Blvd., North Campus. Free. 936-2082

*"The Meaning of Amae: Presumed Acceptance of Inappropriate Behavior": U-M Center for Japanese Studies Noon Lecture Series. Talk by University of Tokyo psychology professor Susumu Yamaguchi. Noon, 1636 SSWB, 1080 South Univer-

*Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals. Every Thursday except December 28. A series of performances by area artists. Today: popular local snowflake artist Thomas Clark demonstrates how to cut delicate pando the pa Per snowflakes. Bring scissors. Also this month: Rebecca Vlisides leads the Ann Arbor Civic Chorus in a holiday concert (December 9); Tiano Marquez and family present multicultural holiday music (December 14); and the hospital chorus Counter-Point performs "Seasonal Harmonies" (December 21). 12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital courtyard, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936–ARTS.

Thursday Forum: First Presbyterian Church. December 7 & 14. Today: Church member Lee Danielon discusses "Living in an Ever Changing World." Also this month: U-M men's swimming coach Jon Urbanchek discusses "The 2000 Olympics" (December 14). All invited. Noonp.m., First Presbyterian Church social hall, 1432 Washtenaw. \$4.50 (includes buffet lunch). 662–4466.

Memory Keeper Creative Writing Session": Northeast Senior Center. All seniors invited to join local writing instructor Pat Kuessner to learn how to get stories and ideas on paper and assemble them into a memory book to share with family or give as a gift. l=3 p.m., Dixboro United Methodist Church, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.). \$10. Preregistration required. 996-0070.

"Access Soapbox": Ann Arbor Community Television Network. Every Thursday. A chance to express your views, discuss your activities, or announce upcoming events on the local public access station (cable channel 17). Participants are free to talk about anything they wish within CTN guide-lines: no direct solicitation of funds, no lottery information, and no material that is obscene, defamatory, invasive of personal privacy, or infringing on copy-rights or trademarks. Limited to 5 minutes, each segment features 1 or 2 speakers (with no more than 2 graphics) who talk directly to the camera. Production crew provided by CTN. Access Soaphox shows are aired daily for 1 week, beginning on Sunday. 2–7 p.m., CTN studio, Edison Center, Suite LL114, 425 S. Main. Free. Reservations accepted Tues. through Fri. of the week preceding your appearance. 769-



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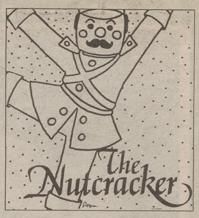
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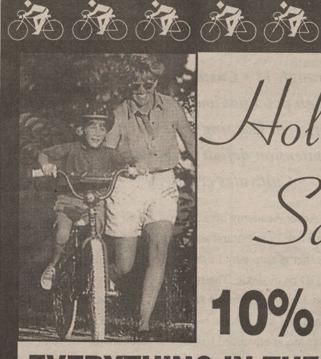
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Waldorf Education ... A Question of Balance

classical music

The Boychoir of Ann Arbor Celestial piercing

The behavior of boys can be alternately intriguing and exasperating, but their choral singing can be heavenly—as the Boychoir of Ann Arbor reminds us, especially in the holiday season.

Boys' rambunctiousness and those captivating voices are parts of a single package. Once they've been coaxed into diverting some energy from running into singing, boys produce sounds that cut through the air of an echoey old church like a spear—sounds quite distinct in timbre from what girls or women produce at the same pitches. But the chorality is important. When you hear a boychoir on TV or radio, the sound technicians sometimes move in on the singers, and you can notice that many of the individual voices are too rough and raw for solos—but that's how a boychoir gets that piercing effect, once the conductor fits the different rawnesses together.

Thomas Strode, director of the Boychoir of Ann Arbor since its founding in 1987, serves the sound both straight and mixed: some pieces are boys-only, and some are performed with a cadre of grown-up tenors and basses. He's also started a group of teenage Boychoir alums (with changed voices) in time for this year's Christmas performances. In concert, the boys' mingled repertoire of British/American (usually Anglican) and Continental (usually Catholic) pieces comes across as pleasantly varied, not schizoid. And those Renaissance motets, with their multiple entrances and unpredictable intervals and progressions, are hard. A Boychoir concert this October included two samples, one British and one Continental: Byrd's "Iustorum animae," which needed work, and Palestrina's "Sicut cervus desiderat," which didn't. Presumably without meaning to, the singers showed their audience how arduous it is to learn that music thoroughly.



They also do less taxing compositions, especially from the vast Anglican boychoir literature. In October, for example, they did well with a massive-sounding "Agnus Dei" by Ann Arbor's William Albright and a rhythmically tough—"angular," they called it—Kenneth Leighton anthem, "Let all the world in every corner sing." For my money, these newer pieces were less interesting than the polyphony, except for one of the Boychoir's favorites, Benjamin Britten's 1959 Missa Brevis-a crossover, having been written for a Catholic boychoir (of London's Westminster Cathedral) by an Anglican composer who evidently never stopped appreciating that he once was a kid. Spurning the conventionally reverent, this Mass alternates jazzy rhythms

with intervals that approach the spiritual by way of the spooky. I thought the boys met Britten well over halfway.

In the hymnbook maintenance section of his *Parson's Handbook*, Percy Dearmer warns the parish clergy of the Church of England about the dangers of boychoirs: "Boys should use none but books marked Boys, as they have incurable destructive tendencies." You can hear those tendencies productively channeled at the group's annual "Boychoir Christmas" concert, given December 15 at St. Patrick's on Whitmore Lake Road and twice on December 16 at St. Andrew's. They'll also be singing on Main Street for Festive Friday on December 1 and 8.

-Paul R. Schwankl

Kids Meeting: Washtenaw Chess Club. Every Thursday. All kids ages 5-12 invited to play chess with their peers. Chess sets & clocks provided. Also, a weekly tournament, 4:30-6:30 p.m. 4-7 p.m., Chess Express, 220 S. Main (below Elmo's Supershirts). \$3 (first-time visitors, free). 665-0612.

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Syracuse. 7 p.m., Crister Arena. \$3 (youths under 18, \$1; U-M students with ID, free). 764–0247.

*Open House: Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor. All parents invited to meet HDS kindergarten leachers and learn about its kindergarten program. 7-8 p.m., Hebrew Day School, 2937 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 665-0533

*Weekly Meeting: Washtenaw Toastmasters. Every Thursday. Members develop public-speaking skills and self-confidence in a supportive environment. Note: Different Toastmasters chapters meet Mondays and Wednesdays (see listings). 7–9 p.m., 777 E. Eisenhower dining room (at S. State). Free to visitors. Dues: \$52 a year (after a onetime nonrefundable fee of \$16). 572–9978.

*Monthly Meeting: Washtenaw Bicycling and Walking Coalition. All invited to discuss ways to improve the quality and quantity of bicycling and walking facilities in the county. 7 p.m., Ecology Center, 117 N. Division. Free. 487–9058.

*"Work and Spirit: A Reader of New Spiritual Paradigms for Organizations": Liberty Borders. Michael Whitty discusses this collection he coedited of essays examining the role of spirituality within organizations. Also, signing. 7 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.

*"Celebrate Ramadan": Arborland Borders. Kids invited to hear stories from the Muslim tradition by a storyteller TBA and make a craft related to Egypt. 7 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677–6948.

★"9th Annual Light a Memory": Hospice of Washtenaw. All invited to remember and honor a departed loved one by joining Hospice staff to relate personal stories and listen to readings and music. Hand-held lights are distributed for a group lighting. Followed by dessert reception. Proceeds benefit the hospice's programs. 7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Education Center auditorium, 5305 E. Huron River Dr. Optional donation. 327–3400.

★"Wire Wrapping": Huron Hills Lapidary and Mineral Society Monthly Meeting. Club member John Lindsay demonstrates this no-solder technique for making jewelry and setting stones. Also, bring rock and mineral specimens to swap. 7:30 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church, 900 S. Seventh St. at Davis. Free. 665-7166.

Weekly Meeting: Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. Every Thursday. Instruction for intermediate-level dancers in a wide range of traditional and contemporary Scottish dances, followed by social dancing. Soft-soled shoes recommended. Refreshments. 7:30–9:30 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver Rd. (off Nixon Rd.). \$3. 769–4324, 426–0241.

★"Teachings on the Bardo": Karma Thegsum Choling Buddhist Discussion Group. Every Thursday. Playing of an audiotape lecture by Tibetan lama Bardor Tulku Rinpoche on the limbo between death and reincarnation. Followed by discussion. 7:30 p.m., KTC, 614 Miner (off Miller). Free. 761–7495.

*"Winter Sing": Pioneer High Schools. Kenneth Westerman leads all eight of the school's vocal groups in seasonal music, including a French Canadian folk song, a spiritual, and works by Mozart, J. S. Bach, and Benny Goodman. Also, the A Cappella Choir previews the program for its June 2001 concert tour of England and Wales. 7:30 p.m., Pioneer High School Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at S. Main. Free. 994–2120.

*Orchestra Concert: Greenhills School. Deborah Henderson leads middle and high school orchestras in a concert of various classical selections. 7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Free. 205–4057.

*Winter Concert: Huron High School. Richard Ingram and Bonnie Kidd lead 5 Huron choirs in the finale from Gilbert and Sullivan's Gondoliers, "Can't Help Lovin' That Man" from Oscar Hammerstein and Jerome Kern's Showboat, Moses Hogan's arrangement of "My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord," and more. 7:30 p.m., Huron High School Meyers Auditorium, 2727 Fuller Rd. at Huron Pkwy. Free. 994–2096.

*Barnhill Band: EMU Music Department. This 75-piece EMU town-gown ensemble, directed by Jerry Robbins, is joined by the Ypsilanti Community Choir for a festive holiday concert that features selections from the Nutcracker and Alfred Reed's Russian Christmas Music. 7:30 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

★First Thursdays Performance Series: U-M Museum of Art. Ongoing series of a wide variety of music, dance, and theater performances by local artists. "Top-flight cultural diversion for short attention spans," notes an organizer. Coffee, tea, and cookies. 7:30 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 764–0395.

★"An Evening of Latin Music": U-M School of Music. U-M visiting jazz professor Roland Vasquez and jazz studies professor Ellen Rowe conduct the U-M Salsa Band and the U-M Jazz Ensemble in works by Vasquez and Clare Fischer. U-M dance students perform original Latin-themed dances to complement the music. 8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

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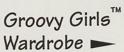
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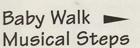
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EVENTS continued

poryn. With mandolinist Pooh Stevenson, fiddler and guitarist Larry Hasdall, and bassist John Dennome. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$11 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"Dance and Related Arts Concert": U-M Dance Department. December 7-9. U-M dance majors present an evening of multimedia collaborations with student and faculty composers, musicians, theatrical designers, sculptors, photographers, vocalists, and creative writers. 8 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), U-M Dance Bldg. Betty Pease Studio, 1310 North University Ct. \$5 at the door only. 763-5460,

"Parked": Orpheus Productions. December 7-10 & 14-17. Paul Bianchi directs Rita Norton Mazza's award-winning lighthearted comedy about friendship, love, and parenting. A divorced mom and a stay-at-home dad who meet daily in the park to watch their kids play are joined by a newcomer, with unexpected results. Cast: Carl Hanna, Yelena Sinelnikova, Jennifer Pickett. 8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron St., Ypsilanti. \$12 (students & seniors, \$10) in advance and at the door. 971-5545.

"To Kill a Mockingbird": U-M Theater Department. December 7-10. New York City freelance director Kathryn Long, a U-M grad, directs U-M drama students in Christopher Sergel's stage adaptation of Harper Lee's poignant 1961 Pulitzer Prize-winning coming-of-age novel, at once humorous and haunting, set in the Deep South during the Depression. A young tomboy learns about the uncertainties of life and human nature when her lawyer father defends a black man accused of raping a white woman. 8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets \$15 & \$20 (students, \$7) at the Michigan League Box Office in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-0450.

"Fuddy Meers": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Chainsaw" Mike Hessman: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase. December 7-9. A regular on the USA ca ble channel's Up All Night, Hessman is a fast-paced, somewhat manic monologist who specializes in the hilarious strangeness of marriage, kids, and other facets of everyday life. He's also the Guinness world record holder for most jokes told in 24 hours. Preceded by two opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8:30 .m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. 996-9080.

*Images & Identities: U-M Michigan League "Spotlight Thursday." An evening of original skits and short plays by this African American student theater troupe. 8:30 p.m., Michigan League Underground, 911 North University. Free. 763-4652.

Argentinian Tango: The Latin and Argentine Tango Club of Detroit. Tango dancing to recorded music. Also, milonga and tango lessons for beginners, 7–9 p.m. 9 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of 1-94), Saline.

EMU Communications & Theater Arts. "Citizen Kane" (Orson Welles, 1941). Story of the rise and fall of a newspaper baron that's often called the best film of all time. Orson Welles, Joseph Cotten. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, 4 p.m. Michigan Theater Foundation. "Rififi" (Jules Dassin, 1954). December 8-12. Re-release of the celebrated tale of four French jewel thieves. French, subtitles. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, 7 & 9:30 p.m. "Billy Elliot" (Stephen Daldry, 2000). See 1 Friday. Mich., time TBA. The Underworld. "Anime Night." Every Thursday. Free DVD showings of feature-length Japanese anime films. No admission after 9:30 p.m. Tonight: TBA. Japanese, subtitles. FREE. 998-0547. The Underworld (1202 South University), 9 p.m.

8 FRIDAY

"Tiny Tots Tea Time": Leslie Science Center (Ann Arbor Parks Department). Hands-on science activities and free play for kids ages 1–3 (accompanied by a caregiver). Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. 9:30–11:30 a.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$5 (nonresidents, \$6). 662–7802.

"The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse": Wild Swan Theater. See 6 Wednesday. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

*The Yiddish Group: Jewish Community Center. All invited for readings and discussion of Yiddish literature selections TBA. Also, singing of Yid-

dish songs. 1:30-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

Sharmila Mukerjee: U-M Dance Department. Lecture-demonstration by this Calcutta School of Music dance professor, a celebrated exponent of the Odissi style of Indian classical dance. 2:30 p.m., Betty Pease Dance Studio, 1310 North University Ct. \$5 at the door only. 763-5460.

★Open House: The Women's Center of America. All invited to meet staff and tour this new local women's resource center, which offers personal and career counseling and workshops on a variety of topics. Also, "savory treats!" promises an organizer. 3-6 p.m., Women's Center, 334 Washington. Free.

*Kwanzaa Celebration: U-M Center for Afroamerican and African Studies. A chance to learn more about and prepare for this 6-day festival (December 26-January 1), whose Swahili name means "first fruits," celebrating the harvest, family, and community. Local vendors offer African-inspired jewelry, artifacts, art, and gifts for sale. An adjacent room features an exhibit explaining Kwan-zaa's history and meaning. Also, storytelling, kids crafts, a musical performance TBA, and the traditional "Mishumaa Saba" candle-lighting ceremony. 3-7 p.m., CAAS library, 211 West Hall, 550 East University. Free. 764-5518.

★Student Exhibit: U-M Residential College/East Quad Art Gallery. Opening reception for this exhibit (see Galleries) of ceramics, photography, and printmaking. 4-6 p.m., Residential College Art Gallery, 701 East University. Free. 763-0176

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Scandinavian Christmas Celebration: Ann Arbor Scandinavian Club. This family-oriented party features folk singing, a Lucia train (a Swedish children's pageant), and other activities. Santa Claus is on hand. Smorgasbord with glogg (a spiced seasonal fruit-and-wine beverage). Open to anyone interested in Scandinavian culture. 6:30-8:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. \$5 (children, \$3). 741-0895

*"Means of Measure": U-M School of Art & Design. Talk by Mary Miss, a nationally known environmental artist and architectural sculptor whose work has helped shift the focus of public art away from plunked-down monuments toward intriguing works that occupy a region between built and natural environments. 7–9 p.m., Art and Architecture auditorium, 2000 Bonisteel. Free. 936-2082

*Roger Possely: Liberty Borders. This local guitarist plays traditional English and North American folk on guitar, mandolin, and cittern (a quillplucked, pear-shaped, Renaissance-era lute). 7 p.m. Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

"An Evening Focused on Compassion": Deep Spring Center/Zen Buddhist Temple. Pamela Bloom reads selections from Buddhist Acts of Compassion, a collection she edited that ranges from tales of the "crazy wisdom" kindness practiced by many Tibetan and Zen Buddhist masters to works by the Dalai Lama, Sogyal Rinpoche, Than Nhat Hanh, and other contemporary Buddhist teachers. Deep Spring Center guiding teacher Barbara Brodsky reads the story she contributed to the book. Also, a performance by the Zen Buddhist Temple's Dharma Moon Band, and a talk and meditation session led by Brodsky and Zen Buddhist Temple spiritual teacher Haju Sunim. Refreshments. Proceeds benefit Deep Spring and the Zen Temple. Note: Bloom also gives a talk tomorrow at Crazy Wisdom Bookstore (see listing). 7–10 p.m., Ann Arbor Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Tickets \$20 (includes a signed copy of Bloom's book) in advance and at the door. 971-3455, 761-6520.

★U-M Wrestling vs. MSU. 7 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, Hoover at S. State. Free. 764–0247.

U-M Ice Hockey vs. St. Lawrence. December 8 & 9. 7:30 p.m. (Dec. 8) & 7 p.m. (Dec. 9), Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. \$12-\$17.

★Monthly Meeting: Professional Volunteer Corps. All singles 25 & older invited to help plan social outings and determine which local service projects to support with volunteer work. Preceded at p.m. by socializing and newcomer orientation. 7:3 p.m., NEW Center, 1100 N. Main. Free. 747–6801.

★"Sleep, Dreams, and Dying: Teachings and Transmissions of the Tibetan Buddhist Dream Yogas": Dam Tsig Foundation. December 8 & 9. Local American-born Tibetan Buddhist lamas A'dzom Rinpoche and Traktung Rinpoche discuss sleep and dreams as vehicles for spiritual growth, ac-cording to the Tantric and Dzogehen systems of dream yoga. 7:30 p.m. (Dec. 8) & 10:30 a.m.-4 (Dec. 9), Flaming Jewel Dharma Center, 211 E. Ann. Free. 663-3842.

"Boar's Head Festival": First Presbyterian



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The Chenille Sisters bring their trademark harmony and wit to selections from their new CD and more, at the Ark Dec. 8.

Church. December 8 & 9. First Presbyterian music director Susan Wilburn conducts the First Presbytetian chancel and children's choirs, the church or-chestra, and vocal soloists. Also, a guest performance by the Ypsilanti High School Chamber Singers, directed by Bill Boggs. The program begins with the procession of the boar's head, the bringing in of the Yule log, and wassail carols. It concludes with a lavishly lighted, fully staged Nativity pageant with sacred carols. Also, secular Renaissance dance and instrumental, choral, and vocal music. The audience is invited to join in much of the singing. 7:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. \$5 at the door only. 662–4466.

Empatheater. Artistic director Sara Schreiber leads this local theater group in its 7th season. Empatheater invites audience members to anonymously write down their concerns and life situations, which become a springboard for the actors' improvisations. Theatergoers watch their stories come alive. This month's topic: "Gifts." 7:30 p.m., Kerrytown Con-cert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$12 & \$15 (students and seniors \$8) in advance or at the door.

"Scientific Illustration: It's Only Natural": U-M School of Art & Design. Opening reception for this exhibit (see Galleries) of multimedia renderings of animals and plants, anthropological studies, and more, by members of the U-M Scientific Illustration Club. 8 p.m., Art & Architecture Bldg. Robbins Center, 2000 Bonisteel Blvd., North Campus. Free. 936-2082.

*Advanced Study Group: Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor. December 8 & 22. All invited to join this ongoing study group to discuss Rudolf Steiner's Evolution of Consciousness. Familiarity with Steiner's basic ideas required. 8-9:30 p.m., 33 Ridgeway (one block east of the Arb entrance on Geddes). Free. 662-6398.

*Symphony Orchestra: EMU Music Department. Kevin Miller conducts this EMU music-student ensemble in a program highlighted by a staged presentation, in collaboration with the EMU dance department, of the prologue to Tchaikovsky's Sleeping Beauty. The part of the king is played by EMU football coach Jeff Woodruff. Also, Faure's Pelleas and Melisande and Copland's Fanfare for the Common Man. 8 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487– 2255.

*Symphony Band: U-M School of Music. H. Robert Reynolds conducts this U-M student ensemble in a Stravinsky piano concerto, Robert Patterson's Symphonic Excursions, and the world premiere of U-M conducting professor Theodore Morrison's Wind Overture. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-

Measure for Measure: Dixboro Church. EMU music professor Leonard Riccinto directs this lively 70-voice local men's chorus, two members of which are Dixboro church members, in a concert featuring sacred and secular selections from the group's 4th CD, A Celebration of Christmas. Songs include "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming." "What Child Is This,"

"Gesu Bambino," "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen," and others. Proceeds benefit the church's building fund. 8 p.m., Concordia College Chapel of the Holy Trinity, 4090 Geddes Rd. at Earhart. Tickets \$12 (students, seniors, and children 12 and under, \$8). 995-4612.

"Iron Clef": Amazin' Blue (University Activities Center). This popular U-M student a cappella chorus performs over 20 songs, many from its new CD Raising the Bar, including its arrangements of Tori Amos's "Talula" and Robbie Williams's "Millennium." Also, N'Sync's "Sailing," Sting's "Why Should I Cry for You," the Barenaked Ladies' "Blame It on Me," and works by Better than Ezra, Phish, Fiona Apple, and others. 8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$7 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets: \$8 at the door. To charge by phone call \$8 at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

Brian Lillie and the Squirrel Mountain Orchestra: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Farewell performance—dubbed "The Last Acorn"—by this local folk-rock band led by guitarist Lillie, a popular local singersongwriter who is retiring as a performing musician. The band specializes in lushly orchestrated arrangements of Lillie's emotionally direct soul-inflected folk-rock songs about the beauty and mystery of ordinary life. Tonight's show includes songs from their 3 CDs, new material, and choice covers, along with some of their trademark stage comedy, including the popular "Make Up a Song on the Spot" contest. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$10 in advance and at the door. 662–4536, 665–8558.

The Chenille Sisters: The Ark. The nationally renowned local trio of Cheryl Dawdy, Connie Huber, and Grace Morand is known for its breathtakingly precise and resonant vocal harmonies, impish playfulness, and a delightfully eclectic repertoire that ranges from vintage swing tunes to sweet bal-lads to novelty tunes. Tonight's show includes both old favorites and new songs, along with material from the group's new CD, In the Christmas Spirit, a spirited collection that ranges from Willie Nelson's "Pretty Paper" and Kay Starr's jazzy "Everybody's Waitin' for the Man wit' the Bag" to traditional carols. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$20 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"Amahl and the Night Visitors": Dexter Community Players. December 8-10. Rich Kifer directs local actors in Gian Carlo Menotti's opera about a crippled boy and his mother who are visited by the three kings following the Christmas star. 8 p.m., Copeland Auditorium, 7714 Dexter-Ann Arbor Rd., Dexter. Tickets \$8 (children 12 & under, \$5) in advance and at the door. 426-8387.

"Dance and Related Arts Concert": U-M Dance Department. See 7 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"A Christmas Carol": EMU Theater of the Young. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Fuddy Meers": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Parked": Orpheus Productions. See 7 Thursday.

"To Kill a Mockingbird": U-M Theater Department. See 7 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Chainsaw" Mike Hessman: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase. See 7 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Wallace Roney: SFX/Ritual Productions. December 8 & 9. Post-bop jazz ensemble led by trumpeter Roney, a 36-year-old Miles Davis protégé who was invited to tour with the remaining members of Davis's groundbreaking 1960s quintet after Davis's death in 1992. "The telepathic call and response, interplay, and explosiveness of (Roney's) ensemble terplay, and explosiveness of [Roney's] ensemble will invariably cause some listeners to draw comparisons to Miles Davis's 60s supergroup, but what these musicians are doing is clearly advancing and embellishing the Milesian muse in this generation," says JazzTimes critic Eugene Holley. 9 & 11:30 p.m., Bird of Paradise, 312 S. Main. Tickets \$20 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666.

*"Candlelight Cabaret": : U-M School of Music. December 8 & 9 (different locations). U-M music professor Joan Morris leads her students in a one-hour revue of songs and short comedy skits. 11 p.m., Clements Library, 909 South University. Free. 764–0583.

Cinema Guild. "Rear Window" (Alfred Hitchcock, 1954). Today only. Stylish thriller-romance about a news photographer who makes a sordid discovery while snooping on his neighbor's lives with binocu-

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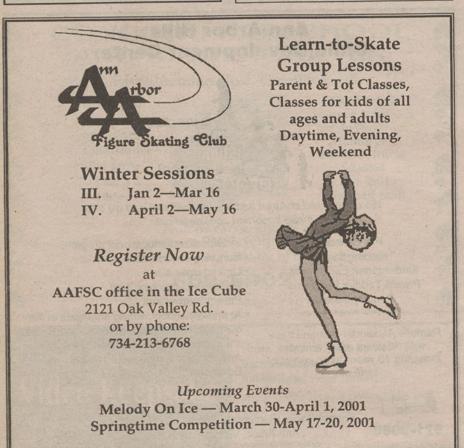
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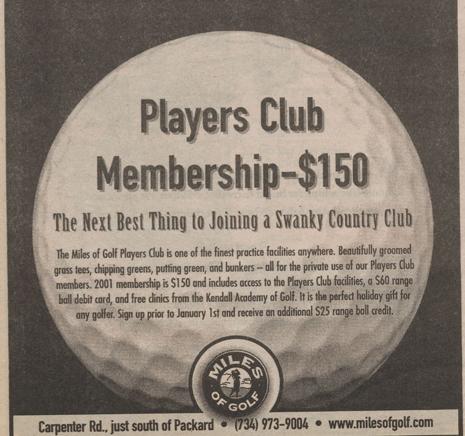
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EVENTS continued

lars. James Stewart, Grace Kelly. \$4. (2 movies, \$5). 647–8434. Natural Science Bldg. (830 North University), 7 p.m. "The Maltese Falcon" (John Huston, 1941). Today only. Classic detective drama about the stuff dreams are made of. Humphrey Bogart, Mary Astor, Peter Lorre. \$4. (2 movies, \$5). 647–8434. Natural Science, 9 p.m. Michigan Theater Foundation. "I'm the One That I Want" (Lionel Coleman, 2000). December 8–14. Concert film of San Francisco comic Margaret Cho. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, 10 p.m. "Riffifi" (Jules Dassin, 1954). See 7 Thursday. Mich., 7:30 p.m. State Street Area Association. "White Christmas" (Michael Curtiz, 1954). December 8–10. Two nightclub performers help an old army pal try to make his winter resort popular. Musical score by Irving Berlin. Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney. FREE. 668–8480. Michigan Theater, 5 p.m. U-M Center for Japanese Studies. "Tampopo" (Juzo Itami, 1986). Memorably funny, affectionately satirical tale of a couple's single-minded search for the perfect ramen noodle recipe, with hilarious jabs en route at the yakuza, spaghetti westerns, and human nature. A film "so completely submerged in noodleology, it takes on a kind of weird logic of its own," notes critic Roger Ebert. Mature audiences. Japanese, subtitles. FREE. 764–6307. Lorch Hall Auditorium (Tappan at Monroe), 7 p.m.

9 SATURDAY

★2000 Great Lakes Falun Gong Convention. Beginning and experienced falun gong practitioners invited to a day of information and practice sessions for this Chinese physical and spiritual discipline. Practitioners discuss their personal spiritual Falun Gong experiences in individual talks (9–11 a.m. & 1–5:30 p.m.) and a panel discussion (6–10 p.m.). Also, a group sitting meditation on the parklet in front of Rackham (7:30–8:30 a.m.) and a group practice on the Diag (noon). Posters and informational materials available. 7:30 a.m.−10 p.m., Rackham Auditorium, Burton Bell Tower Plaza, and Diag. Free. 332–0680.

*"Washtenaw County Gulls": Washtenaw Audubon Society. WAS member Rob French leads a trip (in the WAS field trip van) to the Arbor Hills Landfill in Salem Township, and possibly other area sites, to look for unusual glaucous, Iceland, Thayer's, and other rare gulls. Nine gull species have been spotted in the county in recent years. 9 a.m., meet at Huron High School parking lot, 2727 Fuller Rd. at Huron Pkwy. Free. Limited to 10 participants; preregistration required. 994-8418.

★Restoration Work Day: Nichols Arboretum. All invited to join Arboretum staff members for restoration efforts throughout the Arb. Dress for outdoor work and bring a snack. Tools provided; all welcome to bring loppers or pruners. 9 a.m.—noon, meet at the west end of Dow Prairie. Free. 998–9540.

Monthly Show: Huron Gun Collectors. December 9 & 10. Some 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment, including antiques and collectibles. Food concessions. 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Admission \$4. (810) 227–1637.

"Cookie Walk VII": First United Methodist Church. Stroll through a bazaar of hundreds of homemade cookies, and select your own or prepackaged assortments. All proceeds benefit local and international charities. 9 a.m.—noon, First United Methodist Church, 120 S. State. Free admission. 668–7160.

Handcraft Sale: Sales Exchange Refugee Rehabilitation Volunteers. December 9 & 10. A wide variety of handcrafted items by Third World artisans. SERRV is an ecumenical nonprofit marketing organization designed to provide a major alternative sales outlet for artisans in economically developing areas of the world. 9 a.m.-noon, Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free admission. Wheelchair-accessible. 663-0362:

*Materials Recovery Facility Monthly Open House: Ann Arbor Solid Waste Department. December 9 & 12. Guided tours of the city's recycling and trash disposal center. This month's special activities include a chance to make a reusable memo board from recycled materials. 10 a.m.-noon (Dec. 9) & 3-5 p.m. (Dec. 12), Materials Recovery Facility, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. 994-2807.

*"A Children's 'Who Lives Here?' Walk": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. All kids (accompanied by a parent) invited to join WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner to look for the tracks, homes, and sign's of the park's animals. Followed by hot drinks in the lodge. 10 a.m.-noon,

Rolling Hills County Park, 7660 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free. (\$3 per vehicle park entrance fee.) 971–6337.

"Children's Cooking": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. A Culinary Institute of America grad teaches kids 8–12 about holiday foods. Kids can make a traditional gingerbread house and fix a healthy beverage. 10 a.m.-noon, Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. \$10. Preregistration required. 998–7061

★"Holiday Breads": Whole Foods Market. A Zingerman's staff member visits with a selection of holiday breads to try. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Whole Foods Market, 2398 E. Stadium. Free. 971-3366.

"The Himalayan Bazaar in My Garage." December 9, 16, & 23. Sale of a wide range of unique Nepali gift items by Of Global Interest owner Heather O'Neal, who regularly travels to the Himalayas. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 120 Eighth St. (at Washington). Free admission. 769-1875.

Annual Holiday Book Shop: Friends of the Ann Arbor District Library. For holiday gift shoppers, a wide selection of used books that look new, including I'm Afraid of the Vampire State Building: Wit and Wisdom from the Two-Seven Set, Pussyfooting: Essential Dance Procedures for Cats, and first editions of 2 of Walt Kelly's Pogo books, The Pogo Stepmother Goose and The Pogo Peek-a-Book. A separate room with children's books in mint condition (limit 3 children's books per family) includes Harry Potter, Garfield, and Calvin & Hobbes books and more. Also, Christmas records. Proceeds to support library projects. Note: The Book Shop is open December 10, 16, & 17. 10 a.m.—4 p.m., AADL lower level, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Wheelchair accessible. Free admission. 327—4560.

*Angelina Ballerina: Barnes & Noble. All kids ages 4–7 invited to listen to some of Katharine Holabird's stories about her dancing (and skating) mouse and to make an Angelina Ballerina craft. Also, drawing for a free copy of Angelina's Christmas. 10:30 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3245 Washtenaw. Free. 677–6475.

★Children's Safety Class: Keith Hafner's Karate. A 30-minute session for kids ages 4–10. Topics include basic self-defense techniques, handling negative peer pressure, dealing with bullies, and what to do if you're lost. Il a.m., Keith Hafner's Karate, 214 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required. 994–0333.

*"Winter on Its Way Hike": Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. Hudson Mills naturalist Jennifer Hollenbeck leads a hike through field and forest to learn how plants and animals are preparing for the coming cold. 11 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. Free. (Park entry fee: \$3 per vehicle.) Preregistration required. 426–8211.

★"Dexter's Victorian Christmas": Dexter Area Chamber of Commerce. See 2 Saturday. Today's special activities: artist Catherine McClung signs her prints and Lenox Earthenware (noon-4 p.m., Elaine's Gallery) and demos by local wool spinners (time TBA, O'Neil's Home Furnishings). Also, entertainment TBA. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

*"The Off-Main Street Revue." A day of art-related activities at five Fourth Avenue-area galleries kicks off with a gallery talk by local sculptor Middy Potter (Michigan Guild Gallery, 118 N. Fourth Ave., 11:30 a.m.). Artists who would like to show their work at the Guild may bring slides or photos of their work to an open house at 1 p.m. There are demonstrations by local painters Joyce Grace and Leslie Masters (Washington Street Gallery, 215 E. Washington, 1 & 3 p.m.), local potter James Clark (Clay Gallery, 110 E. Liberty, 2 p.m.), and local glass artist Janet Kelman (Washington Street Gallery, 5 p.m.). Also, an exhibit by local painters Karen Izenberg and Margaret Davis (Detroit Street Gallery, 417 Detroit St., 11 a.m.-4 p.m.), an open house at Animalia (120 E. Liberty, 6-10 p.m.) and "Art Matters," a talk by local art critic John Cantu (Washington Street Gallery, 7 p.m.). 11 a.m.-10 p.m., downtown galleries. Free. 761-2287.

★Walter Evans: Arborland Borders. This Detroit physician and noted collector of African American art signs copies of *The Walter Evans Collection of African American Art*, a catalogue of his private collection, which has appeared in museums around the nation. *Noon, Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free.* 677–6948.

*Strolling Carolers: Briarwood Mall. December 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, & 24. Members of the Saline Varsity Blues don festive garb and stroll the mall singing holiday carols. Also, Santa is on hand for wish lists and photos (Mondays—Saturdays 10 a.m.—9 p.m., Sundays 11 a.m.—6 p.m., and Christmas Eve 10 a.m.—4 p.m.). Kids of all ages can write a letter to Santa via the "North Polestal Service" and re-

ceive a reply. Noon-4 p.m., Briarwood mall. Free. 769-9610.

*"Unlock the Secrets of Your Retirement Plan": Baird & Co. December 9 & 12. Financial advisor Bruce Dunbar discusses the U-M retirement plan; those with different retirement plans can also get useful information. Complimentary lunch or dinner served. 12:30 p.m. (Dec. 9) and noon & 5:30 p.m. (Dec. 12), Baird's, 301 E. Liberty. Free. Preregistration required. 214–2200.

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★"Dr. Snowflake": Westgate Nicola's Books. Local paper snowflake artist Thomas Clark displays his intricate snowflakes and demonstrates how to make them. Children 8 and older and adults invited to bring sharp scissors. 1–3 p.m., Nicola's Books (Little Professor), Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662–4110.

*"The Future of Classical Music in America": U-M School of Music. A panel of student, faculty, and community classical music experts TBA weigh modern trends in classical music, challenges facing contemporary composers, and other issues influencing classical music's future. 1–3 p.m., Rackham Assembly Hall. Free. 764–0583.

*"Celebrate Winter": Friends of the Ann Arbor District Library. Concert of pop and jazz seasonal standards by the highly regarded local jazz pianist Rick Roe. 1–3 p.m., AADL lobby, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560.

*"Kids Christmas Party": Evangel Temple Assembly of God. All kids preschool through age 12 invited for seasonal crafts, games, and storytelling. Refreshments. 2–4 p.m., 2455 Washtenaw. Free. 769–4157.

★U-M Wrestling vs. CMU. 2 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, Hoover at S. State. Free. 764–0247.

*Holiday Carillon Recitals: U-M School of Music. December 9 & 10. Faculty carillonist Margo Halsted and her students play holiday music. 2 p.m., Burton Tower. Free. 764–0583.

"The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse": Wild Swan Theater. See 6 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

"Skate with Santa": Ann Arbor Parks Department. Santa is on hand to skate with kids of all ages and hand out holiday treats. Parents are invited to bring their cameras. 2:30–4:30 p.m., Buhr Park outdoor ice rink, 2751 Packard Rd: (next to Cobblestone Farm). \$3 (youths age 17 & over and seniors age 60 & over, \$2.50). Skate rentals available (\$2). 971–3228.

*"Animania": U-M Japanese Animation Film Society. This popular monthly 8-hour festival (with dinner break) of Japanese animation wraps up the semester with the fast-paced comedy *His and Her* Circumstances, the dark and at times violent Violinist of Hameln, short films on Japanese culture, and more. Anime trivia contest, raffle, and sale of Tshirts. Also, a food drive, with a free raffle ticket for every nonperishable canned or boxed item contributed. U-M campus admission policy: No one 18 or under admitted without an adult. 4–11:30 p.m., MLB 3, 812 E. Washington at Thayer. Free. For more information, E-mail animania@umich.edu, or visit the website at www.umich.edu/~animania.

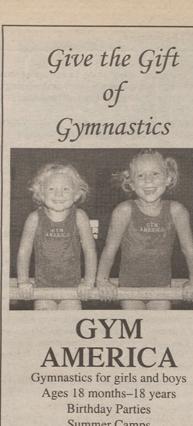
Sing Along with Santa": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. This popular annual family concert features a carol sing led by local singer-actor Larry Henkel as Santa, with accompaniment by AASO pi anist Lori Cheek and violinist Steven Miahky. Also, a local ensemble performs selections from Vince Guaraldi's A Charlie Brown Christmas, with trum peter Nick Woodward, trombonist Mike Rowan, pianist Ted Whitehead, bassist David Koenig, and drummer Jared Saltiel. Refreshments follow the concent. 4–5 p.m., Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$10 (children 12 and under. \$5; families, \$25; patrons, \$50) in advance at the AASO office, 527 E. Liberty, and at the door.

"Kids' Night Out!": Jewish Community Center. All kids kindergarten through age 10 invited to join a Hanukkah celebration and enjoy a pizza dinner, make-your-own sundae, arts & crafts activities, movies with popcorn, and more. 6:30–10:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$20 (JCC members, \$16), \$15 (JCC members, \$14) for additional siblings. Reservation. vations required by December 4, 971-0990.

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Development Program. See 1 Friday. Today: Team USA Under-17 vs. Lansing of the North American Hockey Lansing

*Monthly Meeting: Huron Land Use Alliance. All invited to discuss ways to promote preservation of open space and the development of livable communities in Washtenaw County. 7–9 p.m., NEW Center, 1100 N. Main. Free. 769-5123.

*Pamela Bloom: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore and Tea Room. Talk by this award-winning journalist



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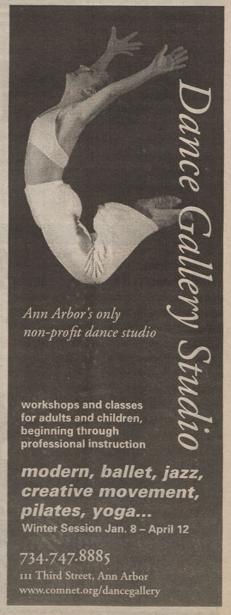


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and travel writer, author of the recently published Buddhist Acts of Compassion (see 8 Friday listing). Also, signing. 7:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

Annual Winter Concert: Ann Arbor Youth Chorale. Ruth Datz, Richard Ingram, Shayla Powell, and Donald Williams conduct three ensembles of talented local youth singers ages 9-16—the Concert Choir, Descant Choir, and Treblé Choir—in a program of choral music from around the world. 7:30 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. \$7 (students, seniors, & children 12 and under, \$4; families, \$10). 996–4404.

"Boar's Head Festival": First Presbyterian Church. See 8 Friday. 7:30 p.m

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the 40s through the 80s. Preceded at 7 p.m. by an introduction to basic dance steps and ballroom dancing styles by Sue Baries, Washtenaw County's best-known ballroom dance instructor. This month: cha-cha. All invited, singles as well as couples. Refreshments. 8-10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. \$4. 996–3056.

Second Saturday Contra Dance. Don Theyken calls to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Beginners welcome. 8-11 p.m., Webster Community Hall, across from Webster Church on Webster Church Rd. (1 mile south of North Territorial), Dexter. \$7. 996-8359.

"Victorian Balmoral Ball": Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. Queen Victoria's favorite Scottish castle is this year's theme for this elegant evening of vintage ballroom and traditional dancing to live music. Includes such dances as waltzes, polkas, and quadrilles, as well as simple Scottish country dances. Singles and couples of all abilities invited. Victorian and Scottish attire (see www. vintagedance.com/wear.htm) encouraged but not required. Also, two pre-ball workshops: a set dances and etiquette workshop (1-2:30 p.m.) and an advanced polka esmeralda (2:30-4 p.m.). Refreshments. 8–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of 1-94). \$25 (couple, \$40) includes workshops. Workshops only: \$5 each. Preregistration required. 429-0014.

Harmonettes: U-M University Activities Center. This popular Women's Glee Club quartet performs a wide range of songs from various cultures and eras 8 p.m., Michigan Union U-Club. \$6 (tentative price).

Kol Hakavod: Hillel. U-M Hillel's popular student a cappella chorus performs a wide variety of music, including original compositions, old favorites, and selections from the group's third CD, Kol Cuts (available at the concert). 8 p.m., Hillel, 1429 Hill St.

"A Winter Light": Vocal Arts Ensemble. Ben Cohen directs this 15-member a cappella ensemble, whose repertoire ranges from 16th-century sacred works to contemporary jazz, in a concert of chamber choral music celebrating the season. Works include Byrd's Mass for 4 Voices and pieces by Lauridsen, Saint-Saens, Poulenc, Morrison, and others. 8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division at Catherine. \$10 (students & seniors, \$5). Kids 12 and under free. 971-9774.

★"Homage": Contemporary Directions Ensemble (U-M School of Music). Steven Byess directs this student ensemble in a program of tributes, including Michael Daugherty's flamboyant Dead Elvis, a piece whose rock and Vegas sections feature a bassoon soloist decked out as the King. Paul Chihara's Forever Escher is a musical recreation of the great Dutch artist's multiple-perspectives geometric drawings, and Stravinsky's In Memoriam Dylan Thomas is a setting of "Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night." Also, Pulitzer Prize-winning local composer William Bolcom's eccentric "Dead Moth Tango." 8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus.

Ute Lemper: University Musical Society. See review, p. 89. Since her Ann Arbor debut six years ago, this sultry, glamorous German-born chanteuse with a smoky contralto voice has added contemporary sounds to her repertoire of French and German cabaret songs in the tradition of Lenya, Dietrich, and Piaf. Lemper's recent concerts have showcased material from her new CD, Punishing Kiss, including the Elvis Costello title track, Philip Glass's "Streets of Berlin," and Tom Waits's elegy to lost love, "Purple Avenue." Her scorching delivery of the searing final line of Nick Cave's murder ballad "Little Water Song" regularly draws gasps from her audiences Tonight's concert also includes a selection of songs

by Kurt Weill, Lemper's specialty, as well as works Jacques Brel and Friedrich Hollander. 8 p.m. Michigan Theater. Tickets \$16-\$36 in advance at the Power Center and (if available) at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538 or (800) 221-1229.

★Sean Duggan: EMU Music Department. See 2 Saturday. Tonight: Fantasia and Fugue in C Minor and Partitas 1–4. Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. 8 p.m.

"Dance and Related Arts Concert": U-M Dance Department, See 7 Thursday, 8 p.m.

'A Christmas Carol": EMU Theater of the

"Fuddy Meers": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Parked": Orpheus Productions. See 7 Thursday.

"To Kill a Mockingbird": U-M Theater Department. See 7 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Chainsaw" Mike Hessman: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase. See 7 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Amahl and the Night Visitors": Dexter Community Players. See 8 Friday. 8 p.m.

★EMU Women's Chorus: EMU Music Department. Ernest Brandon directs this EMU music-student choir in a program of seasonal music. Includes works by Brahms, Schubert, Mozart, Faure, and Irving Berlin. 8:30 p.m., Holy Trinity Chapel, 511 W. Forest, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-2255.

Wallace Roney: SFX/Ritual Productions. See 8 Friday. 9 & 11:30 p.m.

Trippin' Billies: The Blind Pig. Dave Matthews tribute band from New York City. Opening act is Chowder, a local alternative rock 'n' roll band. 10:30 p.m. (doors open at 9 p.m.), The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Tickets \$8 in advance at the 8-Ball Saloon, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Tick-etmaster outlets; \$10 at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666; for information, call

★"Candlelight Cabaret": U-M School of Music. See 8 Friday. 11 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave.

FILMS

MTF. "Rififi" (Jules Dassin, 1954). See 7 Thursday. Mich., 7:45 p.m. "I'm the One That I Want" (Lionel Coleman, 2000). See 8 Friday. Mich., 5:30 & 10:15 p.m. SSAA. "White Christmas" (Michael Curtiz, 1954). See 8 Friday. Mich., 3 p.m.

10 SUNDAY

*"Islands Tour": Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Matt Heumann leads an exploration of the park's Strawberry and Oak islands. 10 a.m.-noon, Park Lyndon North, North Territorial Rd. (15 miles west of US-23), Chelsea. Free. 971-6337.

★Monthly Meeting: Good Thyme Garden Club. All invited to join members' discussion of "Holiday Floral Arrangements." 10 a.m., Arbor Hospice Dogwood Room, 2366 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 213-2346, 429-2061

*Introduction to Hearthwitchery: The Seeker Journal. A chance for beginners or those who haven't chosen a specific pagan tradition to learn about hearth witchery, which uses herbs, stones, candles, trees, the earth, and general magic. I p.m., location TBA. Free. 665-3522

4th Annual Ypsilanti Holiday Homes Tour. Tour of 4 private homes, a women's club, a church, and a mansion under renovation, all decorated for Christmas. The oldest building on the tour is the 1840s Greek Revival Ladies' Literary Club. Others include the 1891 Neo-Gothic First United Methodist Church, the 1892 Queen Anne Glover-Dixon man sion (now under renovation), a 1932 wood clapboard Period Revival home featuring a tin ornament collection, 2 1932 wood clapboard Colonial Revival homes (one displaying an angel collection and the other recalling Christmas in the Netherlands), and a 1938 brick Colonial Revival home with 4 Christmas trees. Proceeds benefit Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels. various locations. Tickets \$10 in advance in Ann Arbor at Downtown Home & Garden and in Ypsilanti at Quinn's Essentials, Me 'n' My Sister's, and Haab's Restaurant; \$12.50 day of tour at each house. 480-3129.

*Michigan Author Book Fair: Friends of the Ann Arbor District Library. A chance to buy a wide array of books, from mysteries and novels to cookbooks, by various Michigan authors, several of whom are on hand to sign the books and talk with their fans. Participants include novelists Charles Baxter and Nicholas Delbanco, poet Tom Lynch, children's author Joan Blos, and others. Free gift wrapping. Refreshments. Proceeds benefit the

Friends of the Library. 1-3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 345 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

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36th Annual Community "Messiah" Sing. All interested people capable of reading and performing the vocal parts are invited to join this friendly, informal, unrehearsed performance of Handel's famous Christmas oratorio. Between 150 and 200 singers usually participate, including professionals, semiprofessionals, serious amateurs, families, and church choirs. A volunteer orchestra of 35 to 45 instrumentalists is also needed; prospective players should call the number below as soon as possible to ensure section balance. Directed by First Methodist Church chancel choir director Bob Pratt, who was for many years the choral director at Pioneer High. Scores are provided, or participants may bring their own. (The "Prout" edition, published by Schirmer, is used.) Orchestra players bring their own stands. Cider provided; bring goodies to share. I p.m. (orchestra reports), 1:15 p.m. (singers report), 1:30 p.m. (performance), St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Small donation requested to help defray expenses. For more information, call Mary Steffek Blaske at 665–5964.

"The Very Hungry Caterpillar" and "The Very Quiet Cricket": Mermaid Theater (Michigan Theater Foundation "Not Just for Kids Series"). This children's theater troupe from Nova Scotia performs its stage adaptations of Eric Carle's 2 best-selling children's books. The productions use puppetry and music to bring to life Carle's delightfully engrossing revelations of the wonders of nature. The performance is preceded and followed by a book fair in the Michigan Theater lobby, hosted by Magic Carpet Books and Wonders. 1:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$10 (MTF members, \$8.50) in advance at SKR Pop & Rock and the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.

Kids' Open Mike: Oz's Music. Kids of all ages and all musical abilities are invited to play, sing, or just observe. Note new location. 2 p.m., Arborland Borders. 25¢ minimum donation. Reservations required. 662–8283.

*Monthly Meeting: Friends of Four-Hand Piano. Pianists of all abilities invited to bring their music for a casual afternoon of performing duets. An opportunity to meet other pianists and find partners for 4-hand and 2-piano music. Listeners welcome. 2 p.m., location TBA. Free. 663–3942, 769–2105.

*Shape Note Singing: The Ark/Ann Arbor Sacred Harp. All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Songbooks available, but singers are encouraged to bring their own. 2–5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free. 747–9644, 761–1451.

"Fuddy Meers": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 2 p.m.

"The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse": Wild Swan Theater. See 6 Wednesday. 2 & 4 p.m.

"Parked": Orpheus Productions. See 7 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"To Kill a Mockingbird": U-M Theater Department. See 7 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Amahl and the Night Visitors": Dexter Community Players. See 8 Friday. 2 p.m.

*Holiday Dinner: Pittsfield Township Historical Society. All invited to join club members for dinner and learn about club activities. 3 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Administration Bldg., 6201 W. Michigan Ave. Free (pay for your own meal). Preregistration required. 429–4517, 971–2384.

Japanese Tea Ceremony: U-M Museum of Art. Tea ceremony practitioners enact a traditional Japanese tea ceremony (25 minutes) in the museum's teahouse, followed by a discussion on the ritual's symbolism. This month's theme, in the *Omote* style, is "Downy Flakes: An Unseasonable Flower over the Flowerless Field." Preceded at 2 p.m. by shakuhachi (Japanese flute) music performed by Michael Gould. Space fills up quickly; arrive early for a seat. 3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. \$3 suggested donation. 764–0395.

*"Christmas Concert": Dexter Community Band. Bill Gourley directs this volunteer ensemble in a program of seasonal music that ranges from Dello Joio's Variance on a Medieval Tune to swing arrangements of Christmas songs. Also, the Ann Arbor Concert Band, directed by Lloyd Whitehead, performs a set of seasonal music, and the 2 ensembles join forces for a set highlighted by A Christmas Festival, Leroy Anderson's medley of sacred and secular Christmas music. Postconcert refreshments. 3 p.m., Dexter High School gym, 2615 Dexter Rd., Dexter. Free. 429–5301, 663–4451.

Hanukkah Bazaar: Temple Beth Emeth. December 10 & 11. Sale of gifts large and small, dreidels,



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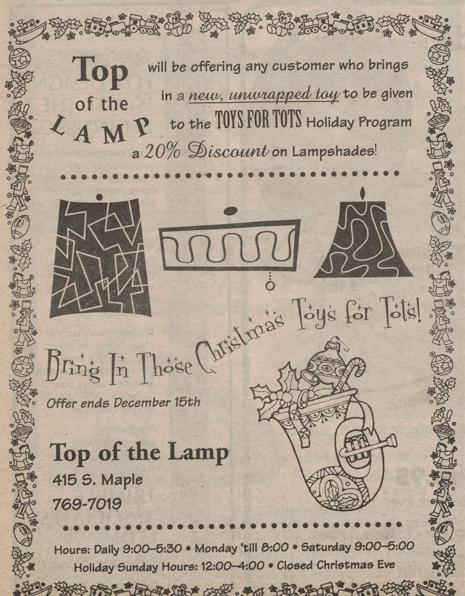
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EVENTS continued

menorahs, tableware, decorations, books, tapes, candles, and more. 4-7:30 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard. Free admission. 665-4744.

★"Bach 2000 Series": U-M School of Music. EMU organist Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra and students perform Advent and Christmas organ music by J. S. Bach. 4 p.m., U-M School of Music Organ Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0594.

★Chamber Music Concert: U-M Residential College. Virginia Weckstrom-Kantor directs RC students in a program of chamber duets, trios, quartets and ensemble works. 4 p.m., RC auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 763-0176.

★Concert Band: U-M School of Music. James Tapia and Scott Teeple conduct this U-M student ensemble. Program highlights include Brahms's lush A Lovely Rose Is Blooming, John Adams's rhythmically complex Short Ride on a Fast Machine, Arthur Sullivan's Pine-Apple Poll (a ballet suite made up of songs from Gilbert & Sullivan operettas), and local Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Leslie Bassett's Designs, Images, and Textures. 4 p.m., Hill Auditori-um. Free. 764–0583.

"Canticle of Joy": First Congregational Church. The church's Chancel Choir and an ad hoc community orchestra perform Joseph Martin's soaring work celebrating Christ's birth. Proceeds benefit the church music program. 4 p.m., First Congregational Church, 608 E. William. Donations appreciated.

★Queer Fiction Book Club. All invited to discuss Toward Amnesia, Sarah Van Arsdale's novel about a marine biologist, crushed by a cruel breakup, who tries to reinvent herself by fleeing almost emptyhanded into the hinterlands. 4:30-6 p.m., Common Language Bookstore basement, 215 S. Fourth Ave.

★"How to Take Great Family Pictures": Parents Without Partners. Talk by veteran local professional photographer Vern Otto. Q&A. Bring your cam-5-6 p.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. Free.

★"Booked for Murder": Westgate Nicola's Books. Rescheduled from November. All invited to discuss 2 murder mysteries with a ghost theme, James Lee Burke's In the Electric Mist with Confederate Dead and Tony Hillerman's The Ghost Way. 5-6 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 769-2149.

★"Creator of the Stars of Night: Organ Music for Advent and Christmas": St. Thomas the Apostle Church. Local professional organist Tim Huth performs works by J. S. Bach, Durufle, Louis Vierne, and others. 5 p.m., St. Thomas, 517 Elizabeth St. Free. 995–1953.

★Victory: Zion Lutheran Church. This contemporary Christian music duo from the East Coast performs a variety of Christmas songs. 7 p.m., Zion Lutheran, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 994-4455.

*"National Ideology and Individual Anxiety in Israeli Holocaust Films": Beth Israel Congregation. Tel Aviv University film professor Ilan Avisar discusses the continuing effect of the Holocaust in Israeli culture and shows illustrative excerpts from Israeli films. 7:30 p.m., Beth Israel, 2000 Washtenaw. Free. 665–9897.

House Concert: Chamber Music Ann Arbor. This ensemble of U-M music faculty, other accomplished local musicians, and guests continues its series of intimate concerts held in private homes. Tonight's featured performers are U-M viola professor Yizhak Schotten, U-M flute professor Amy Porter, U-M violin professor Andrew Jennings, and others. Program: Ravel's austere Sonatine and Beethoven's gracious Serenade, op. 25. Followed by a wine and dessert reception. 7:30 p.m., location TBA. \$30 in advance only. 930–1960.

Just Friends Ensemble: The Ark. Veteran local singer-actress Judy Dow Rumelhart and singer Larry Henkel are joined by other friends for an evening of standards and show tunes from the 20s through the 50s, as well as some holiday songs. Music director and pianist is James Wilhelmsen. 7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$20 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

"27th Annual Holiday Ragtime Bash": First Unitarian Church. This popular annual tradition al-ways draws "smiling sellout crowds," according to organizers, due to its feast of piano ragtime and traditional jazz, with boogie-woogie and blues thrown in for good measure. Tonight's top-notch local per-formers include pianists Mr. B, Bob Milne, Mike

Montgomery, Kerry Price, and Bob Seeley. Also 2 duos, pianist James Dapogny and vocalist Susan Chastain, and pianist William Bolcom and his wife, soprano Joan Morris. 7:30 p.m., First Unitarian Church, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. at Ellsworth. Tickets \$15 (students & seniors, \$10; families, \$35) in advance at Westgate Nicola's Books and at the door. 665-6158.

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*Faculty Recital: U-M School of Music. U-M music professors Martin Katz (piano) and Thomas Landschoot (cello) perform works by Schumann and Webern, and sonatas by Brahms, Debussy, and Barber. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764-0583.

FILMS

MTF. "Riffifi" (Jules Dassin, 1954). See 7 Thursday. Mich., 6 & 8:30 p.m. SSAA. "White Christmas" (Michael Curtiz, 1954). See 8 Friday. Mich., 3 p.m. "I'm the One That I Want" (Lionel Coleman, 2000). See 8 Friday. Mich., 5:30 & 8 p.m.

11 MONDAY

"Washi Egg Ornaments": The Scrap Box. All adults invited to learn how to make a paper-covered ornament using this Japanese technique. A fund-raiser for the Scrap Box. 10 a.m.—noon & 6:30–8:30 p.m., The Scrap Box, 581 State Cir. \$10. Preregistration required. 994–0012.

★Card Party: Northeast Senior Center. All seniors invited to play bridge, euchre, and dominoes, and to socialize. Refreshments. 1 p.m., Dixboro United Methodist Church, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.). Free. Reservations requested. 996-0070.

*"Organic Food: Truth, Lies, and Media Spin": People's Food Co-op Herbal Wisdom Series. Talk by Martin Heller, a Sustainable Systems and Environmental Resources research scientist and Environmental Resources research scientist who grew up on a farm in Chelsea. 7–8:30 p.m., PFC, 216 N. Fourth Ave. Free. Preregistration required. 994-

*Richard Tillinghast: Liberty Borders. A critically acclaimed poet known for his distinctively musical free-verse poems exploring contemporary so-cial and cultural landscapes, this U-M English professor reads from his latest collection, Six Mile Mountain. In addition to free verse celebrating unspectacular everyday moments like good dinners or rainy weekends, the collection includes some darker works that explore recalcitrant religious impulses and a somewhat fearful awareness of mortality. Also, signing. 7 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free.

"Chiropractic and Its Influence on Health." Talk by local chiropractor Rob Koliner. 8 p.m., 1210 N. Maple Rd. at Miller. Free. Reservations request-

★Sean Duggan: EMU Music Department. See 6 Wednesday. Tonight: Partitas 5 & 6, the Italian Concerto, and the French Overture. Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. 8 p.m.

MTF. "Rififi" (Jules Dassin, 1954). See 7 Thursday. Mich., 6:30 & 9 p.m. "I'm the One That I Want" (Lionel Coleman, 2000). See 8 Friday. Mich., 7:15 & 9:30 p.m.

12 TUESDAY

"E-Mail Basics": Ann Arbor District Library. A hands-on introduction that covers everything from establishing an E-mail account to reading and sending mail and attaching files. Open to all AADL card-holders. 10 a.m., AADL Northeast Branch, Plymouth Mall, 2713 Plymouth Rd. \$5. Preregistration required. 996-3180.

"Children's Tea Time Tuesday": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. All kids 3-5 invited to enjoy herbal tea and scones, listen to winter stories, play games, and pot a narcissus bulb for later midwinter splendor. 10-11 a.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. \$5 (children, \$3). Preregistration required.

*"Why Sex Matters: A Darwinian Look at Human Behavior": Ann Arbor District Library
"Booked for Lunch." U-M resource ecology professor Bobbi Low discusses her new book exploring the extent to which the genetically encoded drive to reproduce is the motive behind a surprisingly wide range of human behaviors. Bring a bag lunch; coffee and tea provided. Taped for repeat broadcasts on cable channel 17. 12:10-1 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327-4560.

Monthly Dinner: American Business Women's Association MAIA Chapter. Dinner and the group's annual holiday raffle of purchased and handmade items (bring an item to contribute, if you like). Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by socializing. A chance for all local businesswomen to meet and network. Proceeds benefit a scholarship fund. 6:30 p.m., Weber's n, 3050 Jackson Rd. \$13. Reservations required.

U-M Ice Hockey vs. U.S. National Development Team. The U-M plays an exhibition game against a team of players age 17 & under in the Ann Arbor-based U.S National Development Team program (see 1 Friday listing). The younger national development team plays tonight at the Ice Cube (see listing below). 7 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State at McKinley. \$12–\$17. 764–0247.

Team USA: USA Hockey National Team Devel-Opment Program. See 1 Friday. Today: Team USA Under-17 vs. Compuware (Plymouth, Michigan) of the North American Hockey League. 7 p.m.

*"Practical Democracy: The Election Is Over, Now What?": People's Food Co-op. Talk (with an optimistic title) by Thom Saffold of the Washtenaw County Direct Action Center. 7–8:30 p.m., PFC, 216 N. Fourth Ave. Free. Preregistration required. 994–4580

"Brilliant Antagonists: Jefferson, Hamilton, and the Adversarial Origins of the American System of Government": U-M Clements Library. A heated debate on American governmental principles between Founding Fathers (and bitter enemies) Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson.
Hamilton is portrayed by U.S. Air Force Academy
political science professor Hal Bidlack and Jefferson by nationally acclaimed historical scholar Clay Jenk-inson, each decked out in period finery. Bidlack and Jenkinson regularly collaborate as Hamilton and Jef-by U-M history professor emeritus Shaw Livermore. Followed by reception. 7 p.m., Clements Library, 909 South University. Tickets \$25 (museum associates, \$20; students, \$10) in advance only. 764–2347.

*The Chenille Sisters: Liberty Borders. This nationally renowned local vocal trio (see 8 Friday listing) showcases material from their new CD, In the Christmas Spirit. 7 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.

*Groupe de Français. All fluent French speakers invited for conversation. 7:30-9 p.m., Cafe Zola, 112 W. Washington. Free admission. 996-1848.

*Sierra Club Book Club: Westgate Nicola's Books. All invited to discuss members' favorite fic-tional and nonfictional natural history books. Future reading suggestions welcome. 7:30 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662-4110.

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*Biweekly Meeting: Washtenaw Ski Touring Club. All invited to meet club members and learn about the ski club's various excursions and social events. Also, presentations by members. Tonight: a used equipment & clothing swap (bring items to trade). Preceded by socializing (7 p.m.). 7:30 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 662–SKIS.

*Songwriters' Open Mike: Oz's Music Environment. All musicians invited to this open mike event hosted by local singer-songwriter Jim Novak. Perform formances taped for local community TV. 7:30 p.m., Arborland Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. Preregistration required. 662-8283.

*Faculty Recital: U-M School of Music. U-M composition professor Erik Santos performs 2 of his own piano works, Guernica Dances and Only the Dead May Drink, and Daniel Perlongo's Serenade for piano. 8 p.m., U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. Free. 764–0583.

*University Philharmonia Orchestra and Chamber Choir: U-M School of Music. Steven Byess and Theodore Morrison conduct these U-M music-student ensembles in Handel's coronation anthem Let Thy Hand Be Strengthened, Britten's Cantata Misericordium, and Dvorak's exuberant, Czech-flavored Symphony no. 8. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764-0583.

Johnny Cunningham and Susan McKeown: The Ark. Scottish fiddle virtuoso Cunningham, a local favorite since his days with Silly Wizard, and Irish singer McKeown perform a varied program of win-ter music, from stirring tunes and wistful melodies to driving rhythmical songs. Includes both English and Gaelic carols. With accompaniment by Irish guitarist Aidan Brennan. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$12 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Of-fice, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

JCC. "Night at the Movies." See 5 Tuesday. Tonight: Leon the Pig Farmer (Vadim Jean & Gary

Sinyor, 1992), a zany satire about a "nice Jewish boy" who discovers that his biological father is a gentile pig farmer in Yorkshire. JCC, 6 p.m. Michigan Theater Foundation. "The Funeral" (Abel Ferrera, 1996). Today only. Dark tale of a 1930s NYC gangster family. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, 4:10 p.m. "Rifffi" (Jules Dassin, 1954). See 7 Thursday. Mich., 6:30 & 9 p.m. "T'm the One That I Want" (Lionel Coleman, 2000). See 8 Friday. Mich., 9:30 p.m.

13 WEDNESDAY

★Holiday Potluck: Wild Ones. All invited to join club members for a potluck (bring a dish to pass) and a slide show of personal native-landscaping projects or favorite wild places. Bring a few slides to show and talk about if you like. 6:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd.

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Bowling Green. 7 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$14 & \$18. 764–0247.

★"Collecting": Ann Arbor District Library/Art Pro Tem. U-M School of Information professor David Wallace discusses the history of art collecting. Followed by a panel discussion with art collectors TBA. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. at William. Free. 327–4560. 327-4560.

*"Are Your Health Issues Related to Allergies?": People's Food Co-op. Talk by local chiropractor Robert Koliner. 7–8:30 p.m., PFC, 216 N. Fourth Ave. Free. Preregistration required. 994-4589.

*"Singing Is a Right, Not a Privilege": Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. All singers—good, bad, and indifferent—invited to an singers—good, bad, and indifferent—invited to an evening of informal a cappella singing of folk, gospel, rounds, and old rock 'n' roll. Bring the *Rise Up Singing* songbook, if you have one, or copies of song lyrics to share. Instruments welcome. 7:30–9:30 p.m., location TBA. Free. 665–7704.

*"Refurbishing the Radio Shack": Arrow Communication Association Amateur Radio Club.
Discussion about changes to the club's radio station.
Also, club elections for 2001. All invited. 7:30–9:30 p.m., Clonlara School, 1289 Jewett. Free to visitors (\$20 annual dues). 930–6564.

Medeski, Martin, and Wood: SFX/Ritual Productions. Avant-garde improvisational groove trio from New York whose music blends funk, blues, jazz, gospel, soul, and hip-hop to create dense, expressive aural landscapes. Members are organist John Medes ki, acoustic bassist Chris Wood, and drummer Billy Martin, along with the scratching of regular guest DJ Logic. "The trio's ability to infect a crowd the size of theirs with the thrill of melodic exploration says a lot about the power of pithiness, rapport, and playing within one's means," says *New York* magazine critic Chris Norris, who also describes the music on the band's 1996 CD *Shack-Man* as "a bit like the clatteringly atmospheric ayant agrees hard works of Leeingly atmospheric avant-garage-band works of Los Lobos, with the added interest of improvisation." The band's 1998 debut on the Blue Note label, *Com*bustication, has been widely acclaimed for the way it brings their trademark blend of free-jazz darting and groove-happy funk to a brighter, tighter focus. 7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$20 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (248) 645-6666.

*"Breath for Your Life: The Role of Breath in Your Quality of Life": LifeTouch Chiropractic. Talk by local chiropractor Diane Babalas. 8 p.m., LifeTouch Chiropractic, 1210 N. Maple Rd. at Miller. Free, but reservations requested. 668–6110.

Scandinavian Couple Dancing: Multicultural Folk Arts Center. Traditional turning couple dances, mainly from Sweden and Norway, including hambo, schottis, Boda polska, and Telespringar. All dances taught by Bruce Sagan, who also provides some live music. No partner necessary. Hard-soled shoes strongly recommended. All invited. 8–10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Anm Arbor–Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of 1-94). \$5. 327–3636.

*University Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music. Kenneth Kiesler conducts this U-M music-student ensemble in Janacek's wild and woolly Sinfonietta and Mozart's structurally surprising Symphony no. 32. Also, U-M grad student DJ Sparr solos in *Guitar Folio*, his concerto for guitar and orchestra whose 4 movements each feature a different guitar style. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–0583.

MTF. "I'm the One That I Want" (Lionel Coleman, 2000). See 8 Friday. Mich., 7:15 & 9:30 p.m.

14 THURSDAY

"NetWorks": Ann Arbor Area Chamber of Commerce. A popular monthly program that provides lo-



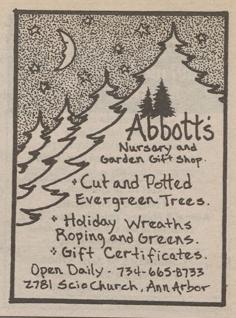
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you

remember

a time long ago

when you bundled up

to go Christmas shopping

and the shops smelled like gingerbread

and the shopowners gave you a candy cane

and the gifts in the stores didn't all look the same?

And afterward you slipped into a cozy place to eat & you

drank hot chocolate & the grownups drank something stronger?

Then you went home

all bundles

and smiles?

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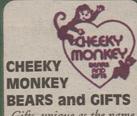
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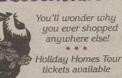
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Or take I-94 to the Huron street exit, go north & follow the signs to Depot Town.

EVENTS continued

cal businesspeople a chance to meet and learn about one another's businesses. This month's program: lo-cal personal trainer Ann-Margaret Giovino discusses "A Personal Trainer's Approach to Goal Setting," Bring your business cards. 7:45–9:15 a.m., Detroit Edison Center community room, 425 S. Main. \$12 (members, \$7) includes light refreshments. 214-

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Bake Sale and Arts and Crafts Sale: Northeast Senior Center. Sale of home-baked goods and a variety of handmade crafts made and sold by local seniors, who are invited to register for a table to display and sell their work. 8:30 a.m.—I p.m., Domino's Farms, Lobby G, 24 Frank Lloyd Wright Dr. (off Earhart Rd. north of Plymouth Rd.). Free admission.

"Shop and SERRV": International Neighbors. All area women invited to purchase a wide variety of handcrafted items made by Third World artisans. Organized by the Sales Exchange Refugee Rehabili-tation Volunteers (SERRV), an ecumenical nonprofit marketing organization for artisans in economically developing areas of the world. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. Refreshments. 9:30–11 a.m., Zion Lutheran Church Piper Hall, 1501 W. Liberty. Free admission. 662-9269, 995-3819.

★"Understanding Learning and Teaching Style Differences": Ann Arbor Area Piano Teachers Guild. Lecture by U-M learning development specialist Cathy Lilly. 10 a.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 973-1637

★December Movies: Ann Arbor District Library. December 14, 21, & 28 (different programs). A series of 60-minute film programs for preschoolers. Today: 3 animated shorts adapted from children's stories, Frank Asch's *Happy Birthday*, *Moon* (a whimsical tale about a silly bear who tries to give the moon a birthday present), *How the Rhinoceros* Got His Skin and How the Camel Got His Hump (2 of Kipling's Just So Stories), and Sendak's classic Where the Wild Things Are. 10-11 a.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. al William. Free. Space limited; first come, first seated.

Open House: U-M Detroit Observatory. All invited to take a docent-guided tour of the photographs and artifacts in this newly restored museum, one of the few sites in the nation with 1850s telescopes in their original mounts. Visitors can pull the rope to rotate the observatory dome, as 19th-century astronomers did. Not recommended for children under age 10. Noon-3 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 East Ann St. at Observatory St. \$5 suggested donation. 763–2230.

★Open House: Chapter 333 of the Experimental Aircraft Association. All invited to a festive, informal gathering to meet club members and chat about club activities and volunteer opportunities. Refreshments. 5-8 p.m., Ann Arbor Airport Terminal, 801 Airport Dr. (off S. State just south of I-94). Free.

★"Casting Shadows": U-M Museum of Art Artist's Talk. U-M art professor Edward West discusses his current exhibit (see Galleries) of photographs whose arresting images depict the daily lives of black South Africans after apartheid. 6:30 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free.

*Maize 'n' Blue Intrasquad: U-M Men's Gymnastics. The U-M men's gymnastics team, which finished 2nd to Penn State in the NCAA championships last year, prepares for the 2000–2001 season with an intrasquad meet. 7 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, S. State at Hoover. Free. 764–0247.

*American Girls Club Meeting: Arborland Borders. All girls invited to learn about the 1854 Swedish-American Christmas traditions of Kirsten, a perky pioneer-era doll in this popular series of seven historical dolls and associated merchandise. Also, a cross-stitch project. All invited. 7 p.m., Borders. 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

*Holiday Potluck: Fishin' Friends. Members and guests invited to club leader Glen Williams's spectacular fish feast featuring six scrumptious dishes. including beer-battered walleye. Bring a side dish of dessert to share. 7 p.m., location TBA. Free. 665-

★Holiday Dinner: Ann Arbor Cage Bird Club-All invited to a lasagna dinner. The dinner is free. but you must bring a bird-related item to be auctioned tonight. Also, bring your own place setting and a dessert or side dish to share. 7 p.m., Ann Arbor Community Center, 625 N. Main. Free. (313) 928-

"Discover Reiki." Local reiki practitioners Shawn Butler and Robert Hughes introduce this hands-on technique for promoting mental, spiritual, and emotional healing and growth. 7-9:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Donations welcome. 827–1443, 827–2764.

*Romance Readers: Arborland Borders. Tentative date. All invited to discuss a romance novel TBA. 7 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948

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"Seasonal Beers": Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about 2 dozen different spiced beers, old ales, meads, and other holiday favorites. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet.

7-9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets \$20 in advance and (if available) at

*Annual Caroling Party and Luminaria Display: Glacier Hills Retirement Center. Some 1,000 luminarias (traditional Christmas lights) create a Christmas glow at this community carol sing-along. Refreshments. All welcome. 7–8 p.m., Glacier Hills, 1200 Earhart Rd. Free. 663–5202.

*Summers, Delaney, & Sharp: Liberty Borders. Acoustic gypsy swing in the style of Django Reinhardt by the popular local trio of guitarists Joe Summers and Brian Delaney and upright bassist Dave Sharp. 7 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free, 668-7652.

*Choir Concert: Greenhills School. Ben Cohen leads middle and high school choirs in a concert featuring a wide range of works. 7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Free. 205–4057.

*Social Meeting: Ann Arbor Ski Club. All invited to learn about the club's downhill and cross-country ski and snowboarding outings and other social activities. Followed by a dance. Newcomers welcome. Must be 21 or older. 8 p.m., Schwaben Halle, 217 S. Ashley. Free. 761–3419.

*"Strength to Be": Shaman Drum Bookshop Publication Party. Readings by contributors to this collection of photo-essays on life in Flint by 40 youth, adult neighborhood activists, and policymakers. The project was organized by U-M public health professor Caroline Wang. Refreshments. 8–10 p.m., Shaman Drum Bookshop, 315 S. State. Free. 662–

*Sean Duggan: U-M School of Music. See 2 Saturday. Tonight: a selection of the Goldberg Variations, the *Chromatic Fantasia and Fugue*, and 4 duets. U-M Music School Recital Hall, 1100 Baits Dr. (off Breadway). North Corners 8 Dr. (off Broadway), North Campus. 8 p.m.

The House Band: The Ark. This energetic British ensemble plays wild dance tunes, haunting traditional ballads, achingly beautiful slow airs, and contem-Porary songs styled after Celtic and other folk tradiwhistles, bodhran, Northumbrian pipes, and various squeezeboxes. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$14 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.

"The Music Man": Young People's Theater. December 14-17. Michelle Mountian directs a large cast of young and adult actors in what playwright Meredith Willson called his "Valentine to a bygone era," his perennially popular musical set in small-town lowa around the turn of the century. A fasttalking traveling salesman cons the townsfolk into buying musical instruments by posing as an instructor who wants to start a boys' band. But his plans to skip town with the cash change when he encounters skip town with the cash change when he encounters the independent-minded town librarian. The show's many hummable tunes include "Seventy-Six Trombones," "Gary, Indiana," "Trouble," "Goodnight, Ladies," and "Till There Was You." 8 p.m., Chelsea High School Performing Arts Complex, 740 N. Freer, Chelsea. \$8 (students, \$6) in advance and at the door. 971–7207.

"The Tempest": U-M Theater Department. De-cember 14–16. U-M drama professor Phillip Kerr directs U-M drama students and a stellar town-and-80wn mix of guest artists in a revival of last December's acclaimed production of Shakespeare's culminating work, a visionary romance set on a magical island ruled by the enigmatic but benevolent sorcerer Prospero and his beautiful daughter Miranda. Pros-Pero is in fact the exiled duke of Milan, who con-jures up a storm that shipwrecks his old enemia upon his island. The Tempest is filled with verse and upon his island. The Tempest is filled with verse and song (including the famous "Full fathom five") and contains some of Shakespeare's most gorgeously haunting poetry. Guest artists include Kerrytown Concert House owner Deanna Relyea, U-M dance Professor Bill DeYoung, local actor-playwright Malcolm Tulip, veteran local actor (and U-M law professor emeritus) Bev Pooley, and U-M drama professors Leigh Woods, Erik Fredericksen, John Neville-Andrews, Martin Walsh, and director Kerr, who stars as Prospero. 8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets \$15 & \$20 (students, \$7) at the Michigan League Box Office in advance and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-0450.

"Fuddy Meers": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Parked": Orpheus Productions. See 7 Thursday

Willie Barcena: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase. December 14–16. This L.A. comic is known for his mild, friendly, but fresh and clever observational and topical humor. He's a frequent guest on the *Tonight Show*, and Jay Leno likes him so much, he signed Barcena to a production deal and has landed him a sitcom that will start in January. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. Tickets \$10 reserved seating in advance, \$12 general admission at the door. 996–9080.

Michigan Theater Foundation. "Best in Show" (Christopher Guest, 2000). December 14 & 15. Clever, very funny satire about dog lovers bound for a dog show. Fred Willard, Eugene Levy. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Heater, 7 & 9 p.m. "I'm the One That I Want" (Lionel Coleman, 2000). See 8 Friday. Mich., 7:15 & 9:30 p.m. The Underworld. "Anime Night." See 7 Thursday. Tonight: TBA. The Underworld, 9 p.m.

15 FRIDAY

Holiday Gift Sale. December 15 & 16. Local artisans offer handmade gift items, including Brazilian folk art, winter hats, doll clothes and accessories, and more. Cocoa. 9 a.m.–3 p.m., 2643 Lookout Circle (west side of Plats because Western Western) cle (west side of Platt between Washtenaw and Packard). Free admission. 971-0013.

*"Reflections Recreation": Intermedia Gallery. Opening reception for this exhibit (see Galleries) of EMU student's Kat McKinney's drawings and paintings. 5–8 p.m., Intermedia Gallery, EMU McKenny Union, Washtenaw at Cross St., Ypsilanti. Free.

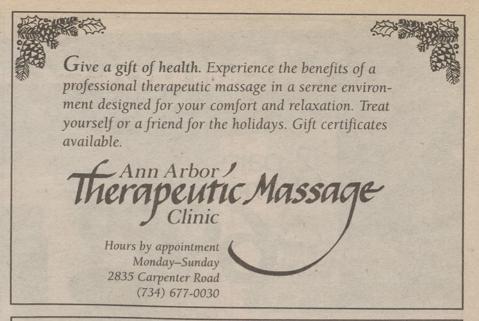
*"World Trappings": Michigan Guild Gallery. Opening reception for an exhibit (see Galleries) of U-M art professor Mark Pomilio's paintings and drawings. 7–9 p.m., Michigan Guild Gallery, 118 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 662–3382.

*"Music in the Cafe": Arborland Borders. December 15 & 22. A series of performances by local musicians. Today: classical and contemporary works by the local clarinet sextet The Clarinet Continuum. Also this month: Christmas-seasoned jazz by guitarist Jake Reichbart (December 22). 7 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677-6948.

"In-House Christmas Concert": St. Aidan's Episcopal Church Monthly Friday Fest. Local instrumental and vocal ensembles and soloists from St. Aidan's and Northside Presbyterian Church perform seasonal music. Also, a Christmas carol sing-along. Reception follows. 7:30 p.m., St. Aidan's, 1679 Broadway. Donation. 663–1670.

"A Boychoir Christmas": Boychoir of Ann Arbor. December 15 & 16 (different locations). See review, p. 95. Boychoir founder Tom Strode directs this local ensemble of 60 boys in its 14th annual christmas concert. The program opens with the processional "Once in royal David's city" and concludes with John Gardner's "Tomorrow shall be my dancing day." The featured piece, John Rutter's Dancing Day, is accompanied by a small chamber ensemble that highlights 15-year-old harp virtuoso Allegra Lilly. Also, 2 William Billings Christmas anthems, several new Christmas songs by English composer Bob Chilcott, and traditional Christmas composer Bob Chilcott, and traditional Christmas carols. The boy singers are supplemented by the new Changed Voice (alumni) Choir and several professional men singers, who provide the lower choral parts, and the choir is accompanied by St. John's Episcopal Church (Detroit) organist and choirmaster Charles Kennedy. The Boychoir's Preparatory Choir performs Gustav Holst's setting of "Masters in This Hall." The program concludes with a sing-along of traditional carols. This popular annual concert usually draws a full house, so get your tickets in advance. 7:30 p.m., St. Patrick Catholic Church, 5671 Whitmore Lake Rd. at Northfield Church. Tickets \$15 (students & seniors, \$10; youths 17 & under, \$5; families, \$40) in advance and at the door. 663–5377.

"Merlin, Arthur, and the Magic Sword": Young Actors Guild. December 15-17. Sue Roe directs a cast of young actors in the company's original play, an adaptation—with plenty of special effects—of the tale of the powerful magician-seer Merlin, advisor to the legendary British king who won the throne by pulling the magical sword Excalibur from a rock. 7:30 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, Michigan



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Asthma affects 3% to 8% of all children. Many children with asthma are unable to have normal play and exercise and frequently miss school because of asthma attacks.

The Respiratory Medicine Research Institute of Michigan (RMRIM) is conducting several clinical studies on new treatment for children with asthma.

Examinations, laboratory tests, and study medications are provided free to study participants and time and travel are compensated.

Information about these studies can be obtained by calling Pat Lezak at the RMRIM at: 734-434-3007

Respiratory Medicine Research Institute of Michigan

5333 McAuley Dr., Suite R-1018 Ypsilanti, MI 48197 Phone: (734) 434-3007

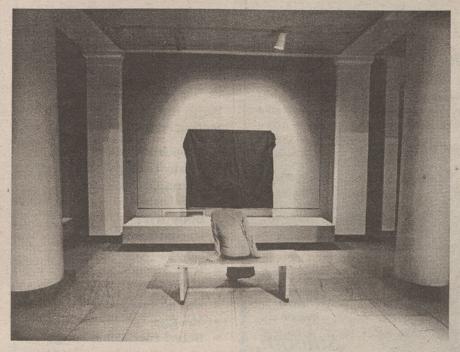
galleries

A Day Without Art Fearsome beauty

Visiting the U-M Museum of Art on World AIDS Day (December 1) is an uncanny and haunting experience. Like many galleries and museums, UMMA memorializes AIDS victims with its annual "Day Without Art." Different institutions observe the day differently, though most commemorate the disease's decimation of the arts community. Here, several paintings and statues are draped with black cloth. In the abstract, it sounds like a simple, even banal stunt. But far from being a sort of anti-exhibit, the Day Without Art has a fearsome beauty. Maybe the museum's most powerful show in years, it delves into themes of loss, vision, memory, and transformation.

One's first sensation on approaching the museum is that something is amiss. The large sculpture outside the front entrance is wrapped in black plastic, as if someone had thrown it out in a garbage bag. Directly inside, two statues are covered with black sheets. The immediate association is with death: are these statues mourners? Grim reapers? These, too, look as if they've been disposed of, perhaps shrouded for basement storage. Previous visitors to the museum may have trouble recalling just what the sculptures look like under the cloth. One has a paradoxical feeling that something—an artwork, a person-has been lost and forgotten, but also that it has been transformed into a new presence, a reminder of what was once there

The open apse, where colorful abstract paintings hang on the curved walls, is reduced to austerity. Cloths cover all the paintings. In the center of the room a television is playing



Blue, a film by the artist Derek Jarman that tells, with a blank blue screen and voice-over narration, the story of Jarman's AIDS-induced blindness. The video holds the exhibit together, its haunting music drifting through the museum, its narration making themes of loss and death explicit. Like the draped artworks, it is a paradox—a solemn presence that is the manifestation of absence.

Aside from its obvious goals of educating the public about AIDS and reckoning the toll it's taken, the exhibit has a strong moral undercurrent. When you're unable to recall the precise details of artworks you've seen again and again, you're forced to wonder how closely you were paying attention in the first place. As Jarman's film plays in the background, a reminder of his blindness and his death, the questions become inevitable: "How much do I appreciate what I see? What have I lost, what will I lose, and how much of it will I remember? Do I pay sufficient attention to the people and things around me?" In this way, the Day Without Art is about its nominal topic only as much as it is about all of us.

-John Lofy

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor Art Center. Holiday Gift Sale (through January 3). 994–8004.

Ann Arbor District Library. National Society of Arts and Letters; Nutcrackers (December 4–29). 327–4510.

EMU Ford Gallery. Words (through December 19). 487–1268.

Greenhills School. Student Art Exhibit (December 1). See 1 Friday. 205–4057.

Greg Sobran Fine Art. Watercolors and Oils of Recent Travels and Adventures (December 2–10). See 2 Saturday. 996–0406.

Intermedia Gallery, Forest Floor/Embedded Relics (December 18–January 12). See 18 Monday. Reflections Recreation (December 4–15).

Kerrytown. New Works by Exhibit 6. (December 1–January 31). 769–2999.

Michigan Guild. World Trappings (December 12-January 12). See 15 Friday.

662-3382.

Randy Parrish Fine Framing & Art. Landscapes by David Goodyke (December 1-January 6). 761–8253.

U-M Bentley Historical Library. A Sporting Chance: Women's Athletics at the U-M (through December 22). 764–3482.

U-M Clements Library. Brilliant Antagonists: Jefferson, Hamilton, and the Adversarial Origins of the American System of Government (December 11–19). See 12 Tuesday.

U-M Kelsey Museum. Animals of the Kelsey (December 8–June 1). 763–3559.

U-M Media Union. Industrial Design Student Trade Fair (December 7). See 7 Thursday. 647–5275

U-M Museum of Art. Casting Shadows (December 2-January 28). See 14 Thursday. Mark Rothko and the Lure of the Figure: Paintings 1933–1946 (December 16-Febru-

ary 25). See 17 Sunday. 764-0395.

U-M Pierpont Commons. Works by William Lewis (December 3–22). Chelsea Painters 2001 Art Exhibition (December 5–31). 764–7544.

U-M Residential College/East Quad Art Gallery. Student Exhibitions (December 8-January 12), 763-0176.

U-M Special Collections Library. From Papyri to King James: The Evolution of the English Bible (December 1-January 31). 764-9377.

U-M Taubman College Gallery. Work in Progress by Xavier Vendrell (through December 22). 936–0672.

Warren Robbins Center (U-M School of Art). Scientific Illustration: It's Only Natural (December 4–15). See 8 Friday. 764–0397.

For a complete listing of local galleries, see the 2000–2001 Ann Arbor Observer City Guide or www.arborweb.com.

League. Tickets \$8 (children 11 and under, \$6) in advance and at the door. 913-9750.

Holiday Hockey Tournament: Southeast Conference. December 15 & 16. Tonight: Dexter vs. Lincoln (7:45 p.m.) and Chelsea vs. Saline (9:30 p.m.). The championship and consolation games are tomorrow. 7:45 p.m. (Dec. 15) & 7 p.m. (Dec. 16), Veterans Ice Arena, 2150 Jackson Rd. \$4.25 (youths 17 & under and seniors 60 & older, \$3.50). 761–7240.

Don Theyken's Birthday Dance: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. All invited to celebrate this local contra caller's birthday with advanced contras. Various callers and musicians. 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of 1-94). \$5. 996–8359.

Joel Mabus: The Ark. This MSU grad is regarded by his peers as one of the hottest pickers on the folk circuit. A virtuoso on guitar, banjo, mandolin, and fiddle, Mabus is also an excellent songwriter, known for his trenchant humor and eclectic "folkabilly" style. "Mabus is everything a modern string player should be—versatile, innovative, tasty, and funny," says Martin Keller of the *Twin Cities Reader*. His 1997 CD Western Passage is an all-instrumental suite for solo guitar that blends 19th-century American folk melodies with original tunes. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$12.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.

"Fuddy Meers": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Parked": Orpheus Productions. See 7 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Tempest": U-M Theater Department. See 14 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Music Man": Young People's Theater. See 14 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Willie Barcena: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase.

See 14 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Open Dance: Parents Without Partners. See 1 Friday. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by a potluck. Bring a dish to pass (or \$5); ham provided. 9 p.m.-1 a.m.

Spanky Wilson: Bird of Paradise. December 15 & 16. Soulful jazz by this legendary vocalist who now lives in Paris. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., Bird of Paradise, 312 S. Main. \$15 at the door only. 662–8310.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. "What's Cooking?" (Gurinder Chadha, 2000). December 15-21. Drama about how four middle-class L.A. families with different backgrounds deal with Thanksgiving dinner. Joan Chen, Julianna Margulies. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, 7:15 & 9:30 p.m. "Best in Show" (Christopher Guest, 2000). See 14 Thursday. Mich., 7 & 9 p.m. State Street Area Association. "Shop Around the Corner" (Ernst Lubitsch, 1940). December 15-17. Enchanting, stylish





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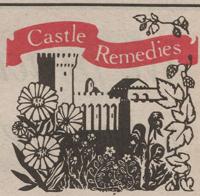


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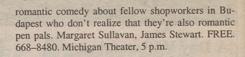
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16 SATURDAY

54th Annual Christmas Bird Count: Washtenaw Audubon Society. The National Audubon Society has conducted a Christmas bird count every year since 1900. (The first Washtenaw count was held in 1947.) Each count area is a 15-mile-diameter circle, divided into eight regions that must be counted in a single day. Everyone recognizes that this makeshift census may be off by thousands, but much useful information is gained by comparing the results from year to year. The count is also great fun, and every-one from novices to experienced bird-watchers is invited to participate. You can volunteer for all or part of the day, either as a field observer or (if you have a bird feeder) as a feeder watcher. In addition to the daylight census of local birds, some count regions also conduct predawn searches for owls. For infor-mation and instruction on the Washtenaw area count, call the organizers as soon as possible. There is a small fee (\$5) to defray costs of publishing the results in American Bird. The results are tallied at a potluck dinner at a WAS member's home this evening. 6 a.m. For instructions and further infor-mation, call Mike Kielb at 995-4357 or Nancy French at 994-8418. To sign up as a feeder watcher, call Kurt Hagemeister at 663-9746 or 665-7427.

★"Christmas Celebration in Dance and Song": AGLOW International Monthly Meeting. Club members celebrate the season with a talent show. AGLOW is a network of Christian women who meet for prayer and community outreach. Preceded at 9:15 a.m. by a light breakfast. 9:30–11:30 a.m., Courthouse Square Apts., 100 S. 4th Ave. Free. 665–4246.

"Stars of Winter"/"Seasons of Light": U-M Exhibit Museum Planetarium. Every Saturday and Sunday beginning December 18, and special holiday showings December 27–29. Stars of Winter (11:30 a.m. Saturdays only and 1:30 & 3:30 p.m. both weekend days & December 27–29) is an audiovisual exploration of the stars and planets currently visible in the sky, narrated by U-M law professor emeritus (and veteran local actor) Bev Pooley. Seasons of Light (12:30 p.m. Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. both weekend days & December 27–29) is an audiovisual show about various ancient and modern solstice celebrations, including Christmas and Hanukkah. 11:30 a.m. and 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, & 3:30 p.m., U-M Exhibit Museum, North University at Geddes Ave. \$3 (seniors & children 12 & under, \$2). 764–0478.

★"Design Talks": Sylvia's Attic. December 16 & 30. Talks by interior designer and Sylvia's Attic owner Marie Minnich. Today's topic: "The Art of Oriental Rugs." Also this month: "The Art of Window Coverings" (December 30). Proceeds benefit the children's winter clothing charity Warm the Children. 1-3 p.m., Sylvia's Attic, 308 S. Ashley. \$10-\$12 donation. Preregistration required. 214-9088.

★Beverly Jenkins: Traver Village Nicola's Books. This Belleville novelist discusses the latest in her popular series of African American historical romances, Always and Forever. Set in the Wild West, the tale concerns a proper lady secretly drawn to a rough-hewn yet charming Texas lawman whose help she needs to take a wagonload of brides to a womanless Kansas town. 1–3 p.m., Nicola's Books, Traver Village Shopping Center, 2607 Plymouth Rd. Free. 662–6150.

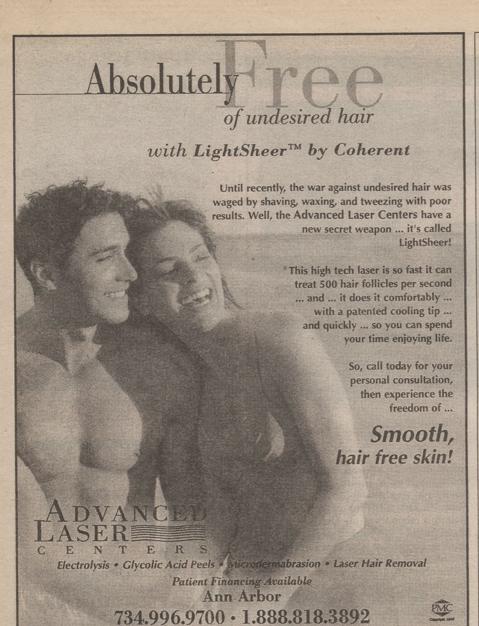
★Solo and Ensemble Recitals: Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts. Hourly recitals by a wide range of instrumental and voice students, chamber ensembles, and jazz combos from this local performing-arts organization for children and adults. 1–4 p.m., Concordia College Kreft Center for the Arts, 4090 Geddes Rd. Free; donations accepted. 995–4625

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Toledo. 2 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$3 (youths under 18, \$1; U-M students with ID, free). 764–0247.

★Yule Ritual: Druids of Shining Lakes Grove. All invited to celebrate the rebirth of the sun god Bel, a holiday associated with the winter solstice. Also, potluck, raffle, and child care. 2–5 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free. 487–4931.

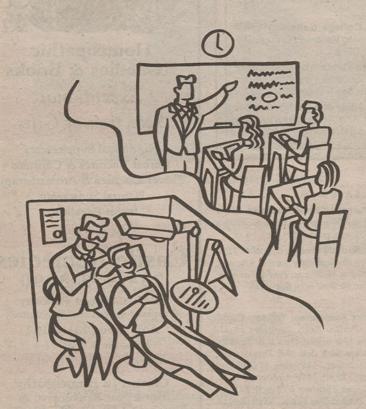
★"Christmas Portraits with Bicycling Santa": Two Wheel Tango. Kids of all ages invited to pose for free photos with Santa. Refreshments. Toddler play area available. 2-5 p.m., Two Wheel Tango, 3162 Packard at Platt. Free. 528-3030.

★Carl Sams: Westgate Nicola's Books. This wildlife photographer signs copies of the children's



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picture book Stranger in the Woods, a collection of wildlife photographs taken by Sams and his wife, Jeannie. Note: Sams is at Borders on December 22 (see listing). 6:30–8:30 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662–4110.

*Maize 'n' Blue Intrasquad: U-M Women's Gymnastics. The U-M women's gymnastics team, a perennial Big 10 champion that finished 6th in the NCAA championships last year, prepares for the 2000–2001 season with an intrasquad meet. 7 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, S. State at Hoover. Free. 764-0247.

"2nd Annual Community Latke Hop": Jewish Community Center. Dancing to live music TBA.

Also, Israeli folk dancing and other festivities. Dinner and snacks available in the Latke cafe. 7 p.m.,

JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$7 (members, \$5). 971-0990.

"A Boychoir Christmas": Boychoir of Ann Arbor. See 15 Friday. 3 & 7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division.

"Merlin, Arthur, and the Magic Sword": Young Actors Guild. See 15 Friday. 2 & 7:30 p.m.

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*Christmas Festival: Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society of America. The program includes a performance of Ann Arborite Katherine Katz's short Nativity drama, A Christmas Imagination, lighting of and singing to the Christmas tree, and socializing. Refreshments. Children must be accompanied by an adult; not suitable for children under 6. 7:45 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. (Parking permitted on the west side of Oswego and the east side of Ridgeway.) Free.

Third Saturday Contra Dance: Cobblestone Farm Dancers. Robin Warner and Peter Baker call to live music by the Pittsfield Open Band. All dances taught; first-timers welcome. No partner needed. Wear cool, casual clothes and bring flat, smooth-soled shoes for dancing. Also, a free open jam (3–6 p.m.) for string musicians of all levels (bring the Ruffwater music book if you have it). 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of 1-94). \$7. 665–8863, 426–0241.

Over the Rhine: SFX/Ritual Productions. Energetic heartland rock 'n' roll, at once artful and ur-gent, by this Cincinnati quartet. Led by the husbandand-wife songwriter duo of vocalist Karin Bergquist and bassist Linford Detweiler, the band is known for its enchantingly spare arrangements and its reflective, self-consciously literary lyrics. Tonight's show features material from the band's 1998 CD The Darkest Night of the Year, a melancholy Christmas album featuring both traditional carols and unconventional original takes on the season. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$12 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticketmaster out-lets; \$15 at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS

"She Says: Women's Stories of Health, Illness, and Healing": U-M Residential College Health Awareness Collaboration Project. December 16 & 17. A multimedia collage of dramatic performance, oral narration, poetry, music, dance, and visual arts by RC students exploring issues and attitudes about women's health. Proceeds go to charity. 8 p.m., RC Auditorium, East Quad, 701 East University. \$5 or 2 cans of food 763-0176

"Fuddy Meers": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Parked": Orpheus Productions. See 7 Thursday.

"The Tempest": U-M Theater Department. See 14 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Music Man": Young People's Theater. See 14 Thursday. 2 & 8 p.m.

Willie Barcena: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase. See 14 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Holiday Dance: Ann Arbor Ballroom Dance Club. All invited to join club members for ballroom dancing to recorded music. Refreshments. 8:30-11 P.m., First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. at Ellsworth. \$7. 665-6090,

Spanky Wilson: Bird of Paradise. See 15 Friday. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

MTF. "What's Cooking?" (Gurinder Chadha, 2000). See 15 Friday. Mich., 5, 7:15, & 9:30 p.m. SSAA. "Shop Around the Corner" (Ernst Lubitsch, 1940). See 15 Friday. Mich., 3 p.m.

17 SUNDAY

"Santa on Ice": Ann Arbor Parks Department. All invited to join Santa in skating to recorded music programmed by a DJ. Free candy canes. 1-3 p.m., Veterans Ice Arena, 2150 Jackson Rd. \$4.25 (youths age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & over, \$3.50). Skate rentals available (\$1.75). 761–7240.

*"Feed the Poets": Del Rio. Open mike poetry readings interspersed with informal readings by poets TBA. 1:30-4:30 p.m., Del Rio, 122 W. Washington. Free. 761-2530.

*Monthly Meeting: Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. All invited for so-cializing and small-group discussions. 2–5 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division at Catherine. Free. 741–0659.

Family Dance Series: Cobblestone Country Dancers. Square and contra dancing to live music by the string band Sandy River Belle, with popular local callers David Park Williams and John Free-man. Geared toward families and children. All dances taught; beginners welcome. No partner necessary. 2–4:30 p.m., Cobblestone Farm Barn, 2781 Packard (next to Buhr Park). \$6 (families, \$10).

Gender-Free Contra Dance Holiday Ball: Ann Arbor Rainbow Contra Dancers. Traditional American folk dancing for people of all orientations. There are two distinct roles in contra dancing, one traditionally male and one female. In gender-free contra dancing, dancers take whichever position they like and with any partner they like. Becky Hill calls to music by David West and Donna Baird. No partner necessary. All dances taught; beginners welcome. Bring flat, smooth-soled shoes for dancing. Also, a bake sale. 2 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337. Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of 1-94). \$6 (AACTMAD members & students, \$5). 434-0953,

Winter Concerts: Ann Arbor School for the Per-forming Arts. This local performing-arts organiza-tion for children and adults presents two concerts of holiday and classical music showcasing SPA-AA ensembles. Lynne Tobin and Janet Mattke lead the Michigan Children of SCORE (String, Choral Orff, and Recorder Ensemble) in a wide range of holiday music from around the world. Guest artists include flutist Penny Fischer and recorder player Beth Gilford. Also, Lynne Tobin leads the Junior String Orchestra, an ensemble of musicians ages 8-13, in Haydn's St. Anthony Chorale, Duncombe's Fanfare Minuet, traditional Hanukkah music, and more (2 p.m.). Lynne Tobin leads the Sterling String Orchestra, an ensemble of young musicians ages 9-12, in Grieg's prelude from the *Holberg Suite*, a toccata by Frescobaldi, and Bizet's "Carillon." Also, E. Daniel Long leads the Youth Symphony Orchestra, an ensemble of musicians ages 13–18, in Anderson's Buglers' Holiday, Saint-Saens's Danse Macabre, and the first movement of Mozart's Symphony no. 40 (4 p.m.). 2 & 4 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free; donations accepted. 995-4625.

"The Music Man": Young People's Theater. See 14 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Merlin, Arthur, and the Magic Sword": Young Actors Guild. See 15 Friday. 2 p.m.

"She Says: Women's Stories of Health, Illness, and Healing": U-M Residential College Health Awareness Collaboration Project. See 16 Satur-

"Parked": Orpheus Productions. See 7 Thursday.

"Fuddy Meers": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 2 p.m.

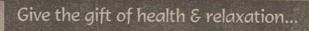
*Gallery Talk: U-M Museum of Art. Western art curator Annette Dixon discusses themes and issues addressed in the museum's current exhibit Mark Rothko and the Lure of the Figure: Paintings 1933–1946 (see Galleries). 3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 764–0395.

*"The Complete Organ Works of J. S. Bach": U-M School of Music. See 3 Sunday. Today: the conclusion of the Kirnberger collection, Christmas selections, a passacaglia in C minor, and more. 4

★"Family and Friends Holiday Concert": Out Loud Chorus. Jon Moore leads this chorus for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in a concert of traditional holiday favorites and pride songs, including "Coming Out for Christmas." 4 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church, 2309 Packard. Free. 973–6084.

Winter Concert: Ann Arbor Cantata Singers. William Boggs directs this highly regarded local chorus in a program that offers a chance to compare how 2 sacred works have been shaped by different composers. The program includes Magnificats by Arvo Part and Giovanni Pergolesi, O magnum mysteriums by Morten Lauridsen and William Hawley. Also, 4 Poulenc motets. 4 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Tickets \$10 (seniors & students, \$5) in advance and at the door. 665-6444.

★Stilyagi Air Corps Book Club: Westgate Nicola's Books. All invited to discuss Hugo and Nebula





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Anger is clear and energizing. It is an emotional response to an immediate situation. It motivates the angry person to take action, and leads to some resolution. In contrast, rage is an angry response to a past frustration which is restimulated in the present situation. Rage leads to the same old arguments. The date of the argument changes, but the content does not, nor does the behavior of the involved parties.

For example, you might have feelings about always being the one to clean the house, repair the car, or plan vacations. The angry person will be able to talk about the situation in such a way as to promote some change in the arrangements. The enraged person, on the other hand, will get so caught up in the rage as to become a prisoner of the feelings, unable to act on his or her own

If you find yourself being angry a lot, then you are not just angry, you are also enraged. Rage is not helpful. It interferes with productive loving, playing, and working. Resolving your rage and getting access to your anger is both liberating and empowering.

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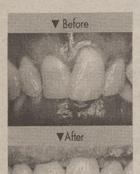
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EVENTS continued

award-winning novelist Frank Herbert's Dune, an intricate saga of a power struggle for a desert planet's fabulously valuable spice. 5 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. (313) 390–2369.

*"Touched by the Child": First Baptist Church (Ypsilanti). December 17–19. A "living Nativity" pageant with sing-along caroling, live animals, and dramatizations of the Christmas story by characters in costume. Refreshments. 6:30, 7, 7:30, & 8 p.m., First Baptist Church, 1110 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. Free. 482–7380.

★Auditions: Ann Arbor Civic Theater. December 17 & 18. All invited to audition (no appointment necessary) for 17 male and 5 female roles in a March production of *The Front Page*, a farce about 1920s Chicago newspapermen. 7 p.m., 408 W. Washington. Free. 971-0605.

Herdman, Hills, & Mangsen: The Ark. An evening of traditional and contemporary songs of the winter season by the all-star female trio of Priscilla Herdman, Anne Hills, and Cindy Mangsen. Separately, each possesses a beautifully clear soprano and a mastery of the folk ballad; together, they are known for their inventive, intricate harmonies and their interpretive warmth and poignancy. They have released 3 acclaimed CDs, Voices, Voices of Winter, and the recent At the Turning of the Year. 7 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$13.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticket-master outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

★40th Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. All invited to join this local Christmas tradition. Congregation mem-bers read nine lessons that tell the story of God's dealings with mankind, from the fall of Adam and Eve through Old Testament prophecy and the birth of Christ. Each lesson has an associated hymn or carol, some sung by the choir and some by the congregation. St. Andrew's adult and junior choirs are under the direction of Deborah Friauff. 7:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free, but an offering is taken to benefit the St. Andrew's breakfast program and the Shelter Association of Ann Arbor. 663–0518.

MTF. "What's Cooking?" (Gurinder Chadha, 2000). See 15 Friday. Mich., 5 & 7:15 p.m. SSAA. "Shop Around the Corner" (Ernst Lubitsch, 1940). See 15 Friday. Mich., 3 p.m.

18 MONDAY

★"Forest Floor/Embedded Relics": Intermedia Gallery. Opening reception for this exhibit (see Galleries) of John Lonsway's acrylic paintings and collages. 5–8 p.m., Intermedia Gallery, EMU McKenny Union, Washtenaw at Cross St., Ypsilanti. Free.

*Monthly Meeting: Embroiderers' Guild of America. Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects, socialize, and learn about guild activities. 6:45 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free to visitors (\$30 annual dues).

*Monthly Meeting: Older Lesbians Organizing. All lesbians invited to discuss "Planning the 2001 Calendar." Also, a cookie bake on December 16 (call Jan at 428-8824). 7:30 p.m., Common Language Bookstore, 215 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 482-2996.

★"The Feast of Joyful Music": Dam Tsig Foundation. An ensemble of Dam Tsig members performs zikar—a Buddhist music meant to aid meditation and awareness—on guitar, conga, bells, and bass guitar. 7:30–9 p.m., Flaming Jewel Dharma Center, 211 E. Ann St. Free. 663–3842.

MTF. "What's Cooking?" (Gurinder Chadha, 2000). See 15 Friday. Mich., 7:15 p.m.

19 TUESDAY

*"Kids Koncert": Arborland Borders. Local singer-puppeteer Maureen Schiffman and her puppet pal Coco present a Hanukkah-themed show. 7 p.m., Borders, 3527 Washtenaw. Free. 677–6948.

★Members Slide Show and Awards: Sierra Club. All invited to bring 10 favorite slides for a roundrobin slide show of natural scenes ranging from the Arctic to Africa. Refreshments. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 480-7751.

Women's Circle: Essence Point. All women invited to discuss chapter 6 of Ambika Wauters's Chakras and Their Archetypes: Uniting Energy

Awareness and Spiritual Growth. Also, a short meditation session. 7:30–9 p.m., Genesis Foundation (Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church), 2309 Packard. \$2. 741-0478.

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*Winter Concert: Huron High School. Stephen Roberts leads three Huron bands in a program TBA. 7:30 p.m., Huron High School Meyers Auditorium. Free. 994-2096.

"Ecumenical Holiday Concert": The Willis Patterson Our Own Thing Chorale. U-M music school professor emeritus Willis Patterson directs an ecumenical choir of local church members in a concert of excerpts from Handel's Messiah. Guest soloists include local soprano Brenda Wimberly, contralto Kimberly Haynes, tenor George Shirley, and baritone Daniel Washington. Proceeds benefit the Our Own Thing choir and youth music lessons. 7:30 p.m., Second Baptist Church, 850 Red Oak (off Miller). Donation. 677–4407.

"The Dog Slam": Ann Arbor Poetry Slam. Eric Daniel hosts this new midmonth affair for those for whom the longstanding 1st Tuesday (see 5 Tuesday listing) is not enough. It features open mike sessions and variations on the standard slam format. This month: a Black Box Slam. Participants all throw their own poems into a box, and then each competes with a poem drawn from the box. Readers and writers of the winning poem advance to the next round. "Sound complicated?" the organizer asks. "I'm sure we'll screw it up somehow, so come and be entertained by our chaos." 8-11 p.m., Club Heidelberg (above the Heidelberg Restaurant), 215 N. Main. \$4. For information, call Larry Francis at 426-3451.

Finvarra's Wren Solstice Show: The Ark. Celtic music by this local ensemble. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$13.50 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

JCC. "Night at the Movies." See 7 Tuesday. Tonight: The Producers (Mel Brooks, 1968), an outrageous comedy about a Broadway producer who oversells stock in a musical designed to flop, Springtime for Hitler. Zero Mostel, Gene Wilder. JCC, 6 p.m. MTF. "What's Cooking?" (Gurinder Chadha, 2000). See 15 Friday. Mich., 7:15 p.m.

20 WEDNESDAY

*"Famous Holiday Party": Northeast Senior Center. All invited to join local seniors for a holiday sing-along and music program followed by a scrumptious potluck lunch (bring a dish to pass; meat provided) and card games. 11:15 a.m.-3 p.m., Dixboro United Methodist Church, 5221 Church Rd. (off N. Dixboro Rd. just north of Plymouth Rd.). Free. Preregistration required. 996-0070.

*Annual Christmas Party: Trout Unlimited. All invited to an informal holiday party to meet club members, enjoy food and drink, and trade only slightly exaggerated fishing stories. 7 p.m., 2143 Delaware. Free. 426-2975

"Multiple Chemical Sensitivities": People's Food Co-op. Talk by local naturopathic physician Michele Loewe. 7–8 p.m., PFC, 216 N. Fourth Ave. Free. Preregistration required. 994-4589.

★Hanukkah Music Festival: Hebrew Day School. A festive concert of Hanukkah songs in English and Hebrew, sung by Hebrew Day School students. Refreshments. 7 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard. Free. 971–4633.

MTF. "What's Cooking?" (Gurinder Chadha, 2000). See 15 Friday. Mich., 7:15 p.m.

21 THURSDAY

*University Living Book Club: Westgate Nicola's Books. All seniors age 60 & older invited to discuss a book TBA. 10 a.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662-4110.

*December Movies: Ann Arbor District Library. See 14 Thursday. Today: 3 animated shorts adapted from children's stories, Gene Zion's Harry the Dog (Harry runs away from bath-time and into trouble), Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears (a West African folk tale), and Arnold Lobel's Frog and Toad Are Friends. 10-10:45 a.m.

*Gallery Talk: U-M Museum of Art. Assistant curator for education Pam Reister discusses South African artist William Kentridge, whose drawings and video are currently on exhibit in WEIGHING... and WANTING. 6:30 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 764–0395.

*Holiday Social Night: Mothers & More. All moms invited to meet other moms who have adjusted their careers to spend more time with their children. Snacks, games. 7-9 p.m. Genesis Foundation (Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church), 2309 Packard, Free. 327–4901.

*Monthly Meeting: Ann Arbor Society for Origami. All invited (children and adults) to learn about and try their hand at origami, the Japanese art of paper folding. 7–9:30 p.m., Church of the Good Shepherd, 2145 Independence (off Packard). Free. 434–5152.

*3rd Thursday Book Club: Westgate Nicola's Books. All invited to discuss The Leper's Companions, Julia Blackburn's novel about a grieving woman who retires to a quiet spot on the English coast where her past magically comes to life. A "radiant work of imaginative sympathy that illuminates and dazzles," according to the New York Times. 7 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate Shopping Center. Free. 662-4110.

"Fuddy Meers": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

Peter Berman: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase. December 21–23. First local appearance in almost a decade by this U-M grad, a high-energy performer known for his keen sense of the bizarre realities that lurk beneath the surface of everyday life. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. Tickets \$8 reserved seating in advance, \$10 general admission at the door. 996-9080.

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MTF. "What's Cooking?" (Gurinder Chadha, 2000). See 15 Friday. Mich., 7:15 p.m. The Underworld. "Anime Night." See 7 Thursday. Tonight: TBA. The Underworld, 9 p.m.

22 FRIDAY

Hanukkah Celebration: Temple Beth Emeth. A family dinner of latkes and hot dogs, accompanied by Hanukkah songs by the temple's teen vocal ensemble, Shir H'Dash. All invited. Followed by family services (bring a menorah for lighting). 6–7:30 p.m., Temple Beth Emeth, 2309 Packard. \$8 (children 12 and under, \$5). Preregistration required. 665–4744 665-4744.

*Carl Sams: Liberty Borders. See 16 Saturday Nicola's listing. 7 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668–7652.

Fourth Friday Fling Advanced Contra Dance. Fast-paced, occasionally complex dances for experienced contra dancers. Minimal walk-throughs. Peter Baker calls to live music by the Contrapreneurs (Paul Winder, David Orlin, Marty Somberg, and Debbie Jackson). 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of 1-94). \$10. 665-8863.

"The Nutcracker Ballet": Ann Arbor Ballet Theater. December 22 & 23. Carol Radovic directs this local dance company in its annual performance of Tchaikovsky's beloved Christmas ballet. Based on a story by E. T. A. Hoffmann, it tells the story of a little tle girl whose magical nutcracker doll transports her to a wondrous fairyland on Christmas Eve. About 100 dancers from children to adults appear in the production. Principal dancers include Megan Edwards, Lee Oaklander, Leah O'Donnell, and Nathan Greenwood. With live musical accompaniment by the Michigan Sinfonietta, conducted by Leo Najar. 8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets \$20 (seniors & students \$17; children 12 and under, \$12) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.

"Fuddy Meers": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

Peter Berman: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase. See 21 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Johnny O'Neal: Bird of Paradise. December 22 & 23. Full-bodied blues- and gospel-inflected jazz by an ensemble led by this veteran Detroit pianist and vocalist who currently lives in Atlanta. O'Neal has played with the likes of Milt Jackson, Art Blakey, and Wynton Marsalis. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., Bird of Paradise, 312 S. Main. \$15 at the door only. 662–8310.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.72. \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

23 SATURDAY

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Morris Brown. Noon, Crisler Arena. \$14 & \$18. 764–0247.

Open House: University Lowbrow Astronomers. December 23 & 30. A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through in-Struments at the Peach Mountain Observatory. The Observatory's huge, 24-inch McMath telescope is operational, but participants are nevertheless encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Program canceled if sky is overcast at sunset. 5 p.m.-12:30 a.m. (as long as the sky remains clear), Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1 1/4 miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 480-4514.

Enchanted Winter Solstice": Ann Arbor Parks Department. Storytelling by ShuNah Sii around a campfire, followed by a candlelit hike to meet the legendary characters behind the stories. 7–9 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. \$5 (families, \$20) for city residents, \$6 (families, \$24) for nonresidents. Preregistration required. 662-7802

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. Historical and traditional English dances, led by Don Theyken and Eric Arnold, with live music by David West and Donna Baird. 8 p.m., Gretchen's House Learning Center, 2340 Oak Valley Dr. \$6. 996–8359.

"The Nutcracker Ballet": Ann Arbor Ballet Theater. See 22 Friday. 2 & 8 p.m.

"Fuddy Meers": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Friday. 8 p.m.

Peter Berman: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase. See 21 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Johnny O'Neal: Bird of Paradise. See 22 Friday. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

24 SUNDAY

"Marathon Skate": Ann Arbor Parks Department. December 24 & 31. Skating to music by a DJ, for adults (11 a.m.-1 p.m.) & youths (1-5 p.m.). 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Veterans Ice Arena, 2150 Jackson Rd. \$4.25 (youths age 17 & over and seniors age 60 & over, \$3.50). Skate rentals available (\$1.75). 761–7240.

*"Lessons and Carols": First Presbyterian Church. The traditional program of Scripture readings interspersed with sacred carols, anthems, and hymns performed by the church's Chancel Choir and Liberty Brass Quintet. Includes music by Handel, Cornelius, Pinkham, Praetorius, and Persichetti. 5 & 7:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662-4466.

★29th Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols: First Baptist Church. A candlelight service of readings and carols sung by the church choir and congregation, based on the famous Christmas Eve service at King's College, Cambridge (England). David Freyling directs; organist is Joel Hastings. Child care available. 7:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, 512 E. Huron. Free. 663-9376.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

25 MONDAY (Christmas)

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA. Temple Beth Emeth. "Fiddler on the Roof" (Norman Jewison, 1971). *Today only*. All invited to come in costume to this special **sing-along screening** of the warm-hearted, poignant tale of a Jewish family balancing old and new ways in a turn-of-the-century Ukrainian village. Topol, Molly Picon. Tickets \$6 (children, \$4) in advance at Temple Beth Emeth (665–4744) and at the door. 668–8480. Michigan Theater, 10:30 a.m.

26 TUESDAY

Holiday Break Science Programs: Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. December 26–30. Fun science activities for kids. Today: kids build their own device to protect an egg from breaking, before dropping it from the second-floor balcony in the "Eggciting Egg Drop." Also this week: hands-on paperfolding demos by an origami expert (December 27), displays of live wild animals from the Howell Nature Center (December 28, noon and 2 p.m.), hands-on demos by popular local paper snowflake artist Thomas Clark (December 29), and cockatoos, bearded dragons, pythons, and other animals from "Awe-some Australia" (December 30). Also, museum staff use liquid nitrogen to freeze flowers, rubber balls, and ice cream in "The Big Freeze" (December 26-29, 11 a.m.). 1 p.m.-4 p.m., Hands-On MuseMOSA Audiology Services Is Excited To Announce New Digital Hearing Aid Technology Available To Their Patients.

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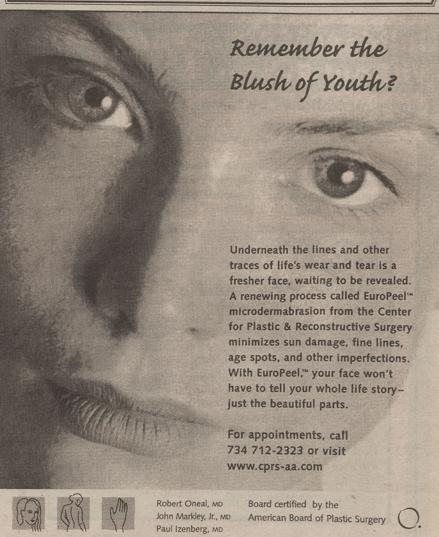
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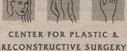
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8th Annual New Year Jubilee of Southeastern Michigan

December 31, 2000, 6:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

This year, bring your New Year's party to us! A great alcohol-free event for people of all ages. Lots of affordable food, fun, and entertainment at thirteen sites in historic Ypsilanti. Free shuttle service between sites.

Entrance Badges available at: Busch's, Ypsilanti Convention and Visitor's Bureau: 483-4444, and Ann Arbor Convention and Visitor's Bureau: 995-7281 Cost: Adults: \$15 before December 25, \$20 at the door. Children 6-12: \$5, children 5 and under: FREE!

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EVENTS continued

um, 219 E. Huron. \$6 (students & seniors, \$4) regular museum admission. 995-5439.

*Harry Potter Reading Time: Barnes & Noble. Every Tuesday. All kids invited for a program of readings from and discussions of the Harry Potter 7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3245 Washtenaw. books. Free. 677-6475.

FILMS

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

27 WEDNESDAY

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Towson. 7 p.m., Crisler Arena. \$14 & \$18. 764-0247.

George Bedard & the Kingpins, Billy Kirchen, & Sarah Brown: The Ark 5th Annual Rockabilly Summit. This popular annual post-Christmas show features an all-star collaboration of several Ann Ar-bor-bred roots-rock musicians. A trio led by guitar genius Bedard and featuring bassist Randy Tessier and drummer Rich Dishman, the Kingpins have been Ann Arbor's-and one of the country's-best honky-tonk dance bands for nearly a decade. They have released 3 critically acclaimed CDs, including the recent Triple Crown. An Ann Arbor native who first gained fame as the guitarist in Commander Cody's Lost Planet Airmen, Kirchen plays a rowdy mix of rockabilly, honky-tonk, blues, swing, and truck-driving songs. Brown is an Ann Arbor native who in the late 70s moved to Austin, Texas, where she plays in several blues bands and regularly wins the Austin Chronicle award as the city's best bassist. This year's show is dedicated to the indefatigable rocker Cub Koda, a former participant in these shows who died earlier this year. 7:30 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$15 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.

FILMS

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Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

28 THURSDAY

★December Movies: Ann Arbor District Library. See 14 Thursday. Today: 3 animated shorts adapted from children's stories, Peggy Rathmann's Office Buckle and Gloria (a police dog saves the day), William Steig's The Amazing Bone (a pig discovers a magic bone that saves her life), and Patricia Polacco's Thunder Cake (a nostalgic tale about a girl and her grandmother). 10-10:45 a.m.

Monthly Meeting: Women with Wings West. All women ages 8 & older invited to join a chanting circle. Includes traditional and contemporary chants from a variety of spiritual traditions. 7-8:30 p.m., location TBA. \$3 donation. 483-6420, 482-0553.

Joel Zimmer: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase. De cember 28-30. A stand-up comic from the U.P. who started his career as a U-M student on the Mainstreet stage, Zimmer is known for his bright, somewhat cerebral observational humor. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant), 314 E. Liberty. Tickets \$8 reserved seating in advance, \$10 general admission at the door. 996-9080.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA. The Underworld. "Anime Night." See 7 Thursday. Tonight: TBA. The Underworld, 9 p.m.

29 FRIDAY

*Baffling Bill: Liberty Borders. This local magician performs wacky tricks and gives kids a take-home goodie bag. 3 p.m., Borders, 612 E. Liberty. Free. 668-7652.

"A Perfect Match Holiday Party": Ann Arbor Council for Traditional Music and Dance. An evening of English country dances, with Don Theyken and Eric Arnold calling to seasonal music by A Perfect Match. Refreshments. 8 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of 1-94). \$10. 662–5158.

"Crossroads Ceili": The Ark. December 29 & 30. An evening of Celtic music, song, and dance. The line-up includes a variety of Irish-American bands from throughout southeastern Michigan, including Grupa Ceiol, an ensemble of Detroit-Ann Arbor high school students that won the Midwest Fleadh and finished 2nd in the All-Irish Fleadh. (A fleadh is an Irish festival.) Also, traditional dancer Nick Gareiss and dancers from the cast of Riverdance. 8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$11 in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.

Joel Zimmer: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase. See 28 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Shahida Nurallah & Friends: Bird of Paradise. December 29-31. Jazz ensemble led by Detroit vocalist Nurallah, who specializes in blues ballads and jazz standards. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., Bird of Par-adise, 312 S. Main. \$10 (Dec. 29 & 30) & TBA (Dec. 31) at the door only. 662-8310.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668-8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

30 SATURDAY

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Purdue. 2 p.m. Crisler Arena. \$3 (youths under 18, \$1; U-M students with ID, free). 764-0247.

*Kwanzaa Celebration: African American Cultural and Historical Museum. An evening of activities in conjunction with the weeklong festival (December 26-January 1), a celebration of harvest, family, and community whose Swahili name means "first fruits." Includes children's activities and storytelling (5-5:45 p.m.), a "Mishumaa Saba" candle-lighting ceremony (6-7:30 p.m.), and a family-oriented poetry reading by community members (7:30-9 p.m.). Sale of clothing, arts and crafts, jewelry, and books (4-8:30 p.m.). Also, on December 28 (6-8 p.m.), 2 free information sessions (preregistration requested), "Kwanzaa 101" and "Children's Gift-Making." 4-9 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris J. Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 434-5507.

*Open House: University Lowbrow Astronomers. See 23 Saturday. 5 p.m.-12:30 a.m.

U-M Men's Basketball vs. EMU. 7 p.m., Crisler Arena, \$14 & \$18, 764-0247.

*Games Night: Washtenaw Rainbow Action Project. All invited to bring their favorite board or card game to play. 7 p.m., WRAP office, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 995–9867.

"Crossroads Ceili": The Ark. See 29 Friday. 8

Joel Zimmer: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase. See 28 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Shahida Nurallah & Friends: Bird of Paradise. See 29 Friday. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

31 SUNDAY (New Year's Eve)

*Gallery Tour: U-M Museum of Art. A museum docent gives a tour of Mark Rothko and the Lure of the Figure: Paintings 1933–1946 (see Galleries). 2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State at South University. Free. 764–0395.

9th Annual "New Year Jubilee": Ypsilanti Visitors & Convention Bureau. More than 2,500 people last year attended this popular alcohol-free New Year's Eve celebration that features more than two dozen area favorites performing around Depot Town in downtown Ypsilanti.

At Riverside Arts Center: comedian O. J. Anderson (7:15 & 8:45 p.m.), comedy and magic by Boyer & Fitzsimmons (7:30 & 9:45 p.m.), and dancing to Latin music by Benny Cruz y la Buena Vida (8:45 p.m.-12:30 a.m.).

At the Freight House: calypso and reggae by Nite Flight (7-9 p.m.) and rockabilly, blues, and more by George Bedard and the Kingpins (9

At St. Luke's Church: storytelling and songs by popular local family musicians Gemini (7–9 p.m.), puppetry and children's music by The Amazing Clark (7:15 p.m.), storytelling by Melissa Carlson (7:30 & 8:30 p.m.), jazz guitar by Jake Reichbart (7:30-9:15 p.m.), bluegrass music by Steve Newhouse and Coup de Grass (8-10 p.m.), scat singing

by jazz vocalist Sheila Landis (9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.), Delta blues & jazz by duo Madcat & Kane (9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.), and Lovely the Clown and Dan the Balloon Man (throughout the evening).

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At First Presbyterian Church: folk and blues on uitar and banjo by Robert Jones and Matt Watroba (7-9:30 p.m.), Celtic fiddle by Jeremy Kittel (7:15-10:30 p.m.), storytelling by Barbara Schutz-Gruber (9:45 p.m.), and jazz guitar by Jake Reich-

bart (10:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.).

At First United Methodist Church: harmony and comedy by Three Men and a Tenor (6-7:15 p.m.), hammer dulcimer music by Charlene Berry (6:30, 7:30, & 9 p.m.), storytelling by Barbara Schutz-Gruber (7, 7:30, & 9 p.m.), multicultural and African American folktales and stories by Miz Rosie (8:30 & 8:15 p.m.), boogie-woogie piano by Mr. B (8:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.), and puppetry and children's music by **The Amazing Clark** (8:30 & 9:30 p.m.).

At Emmanuel Lutheran Church: children's music by multi-instrumentalist Julie Austin (7 & 8:10 p.m.), dancing to pop, country, big band and swing music ranging from the 50s to the 90s spun by DJ Dick Martell (7:30 p.m.-1 a.m.), classical selections by the Con Brio Quartet (7:30-9:30 p.m.-), and bluegrass by The Raisin Pickers (9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.).

At the Ypsilanti Historical Museum: classical and flame and the statement of the stateme

flamenco guitar by Joseph Pratt (7:30–10 p.m.).

At the Automotive Heritage Museum: Oldies rock 'n' roll by Rich Eddy's Rockin' Oldies Band

Also, the Ypsilanti Historical Museum and the Automotive Heritage Museum exhibits are open (6:30-10 p.m.). Schedule subject to change. 6 p.m.-1 a.m., various Ypsilanti locations. Admission badges \$15 in advance before Christmas at Busch's stores and the Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor convention and visi-tors bureaus, \$20 at the door (any venues). Children ages 6–12, \$5 (children 5 & under, free) in advance and at the door. For information and a detailed schedule of events, call 483-4444 or 995-7281.

*Bach Organ Recital: St. Francis of Assisi Church. St. Francis of Assisi Church. St. Francis of Inches of Malley Performs J. S. Bach organ works on the church's Letourneau tracker pipe organ. In commemoration of the 250th anniversary of Bach's death. 7 p.m., St. Francis of Assisi Church, 2251 E. Stadium. Free. 769–2550.

Uncle Bonsai: The Ark. This folk-pop a cappella vocal trio from Seattle was one of the Ark's most popular attractions before disbanding in the late 80s. Billed in its heyday as "Seattle's first family of satire," Uncle Bonsai is known for its thrillingly sharp and swooping vocal harmonies and for the audacious, keen-witted humor of songs like "Cheer-leaders on Drugs," "Billboard Love," "Boys Want Sex in the Morning," "Penis Envy," and many others. ers. The trio—sopranos Arni Adler and Ashley Eichrodt and countertenor-songwriter Andrew Ratshin—returned to the Ark last spring for a reunion show that featured lots of new material. 7:30 & 10 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$17.50 (early show) & \$25 (late show) in advance at Borders on Liberty, Herb David Guitar Studio, the Michigan Union Ticket Office, and all other Ticketmaster outlets; and at the door. To charge by phone, call

"2001: A Dance Odyssey": 5th Saturday Productions. Peter Baker calls to music by Debbie Jackson, Dave Orlin, and friends. "Special guests include HAL," an organizer states, ominously. Also, a 6 p.m. potluck (bring a dish to pass) and a showing of Stanley Kubrick's masterful, mystical 1968 film 2001: A Space Odyssey: 8 p.m.-1 a.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (1/2 mile south of 1-94). Tickets \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. 484-9964.

Jackie Flynn: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase. The winner of the prestigious San Francisco International Comedy Competition, this up-and-coming young comic is known for sarcastic observational humor with a slight edge. A frequent guest of Conan O'Brien and on other TV shows, he also appeared in the hit film There's Something about Mary and the recent Me, Myself, and Irene. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. The admission price to the late show includes champagne and party favors. 8 & 10:30 p.m., old VFW Hall (below Seva restaurant). 314 E. Liberty. Tickets \$25.50 (8 p.m.) & \$29.50 (10:30 p.m.) in advance and at the door. 996–9080.

Singles Dance: Parents Without Partners. See 1 Friday. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. Tickets \$15 (members, \$10) in advance, \$20 (members, \$15) at the door. 973–1933.

Shahida Nurallah & Friends: Bird of Paradise. See 29 Friday. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Films TBA. \$7 (children, students, & seniors, \$5.50; MTF members, \$4.75). 668–8480. Michigan Theater, times TBA.

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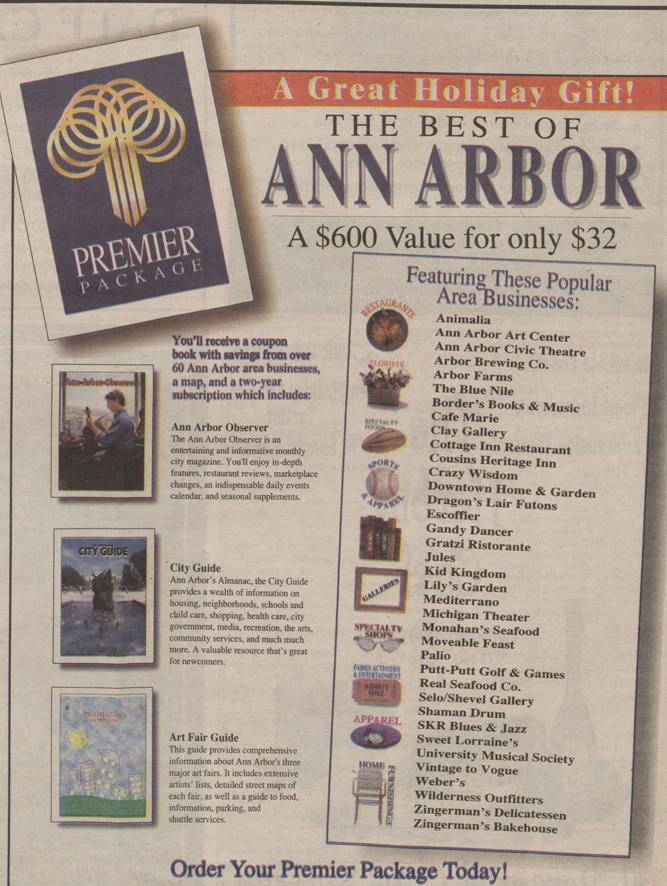
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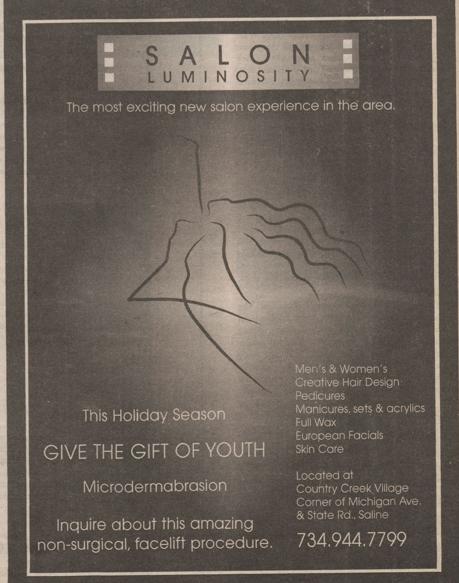
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NIGHTSPOTS

by John Hinchey

These bookings come from information available at press time. Last-minute changes are always possible so to be certain who's playing, it's advisable to call ahead. Unless otherwise noted, live music runs from 9:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

Arbor Brewing Company 114 E. Washington 213-1393

This downtown brewpub features live music occasionally on Sun. 9 p.m.-midnight unless otherwise noted. No cover, no dancing. Dec. 10: Delta 88. Classy local country trio led by singer-songwriter and guitarist Danny Kline and featuring guitarist Alex Anest, bassist John Sperendi, and drummer Jim Latini. Dec. 17: John Sperendi Group. Improvisational groove-oriented jazz-rock originals by this new local ensemble led by bassist Sperendi.

The Ark

761-1451

316 S. Main Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional music. Cover (usually \$9-\$11), no dance floor, but for some shows space is cleared for dancing. Discounts (usually \$1) on cover for members (\$15/year; families, \$25/year). All shows begin at 8 p.m. (Sun., 7:30 p.m.) unless otherwise noted. Ticket sales: If a sellout is anticipated, advance tickets are sold and (occasionally) two shows are scheduled. Otherwise, tickets are available at the door only. Dec. 1: Karla Bonoff. Veteran singer-songwriter. See Events. Dec. 2: Mare Winningham. Country-flavored folk-rock singer-songwriter. See Events. Dec. 3: Willy Porter. Acclaimed young singer-song-writer. See Events. Dec. 5: Paddy Keenan. Irish uilleann piper. See Events. Dec. 6: Paul Thorn. Highly regarded singer-songwriter from Mississippi. See Events. Dec. 8: The Chenille Sisters. Nationally acclaimed local pop-folk female vocal trio. See Events. Dec. 9: RFD Boys. Authentic bluegrass by these longtime local favorites. They have appeared in numerous festivals and even made the cover of Bluegrass Unlimited magazine. Their shows blend top-notch musicianship with funny between-songs dialogue. They have several recordings, including Live and Unrehearsed, of a 1994 Ark performance. Dec. 10:The Just Friends Ensemble. Classical pop and show tunes by the vocal duo of Judy Dow Rumelhart and Larry Henkel. See Events. Dec. 12: Johnny Cuningham and Susan McKeown. Scottish fiddless and blad and Susan McKeown. Scottish fiddless and blad and Susan McKeown. er and Irish songstress. See Events. Dec. 13: Open Stage. All acoustic performers invited. The first 12 acts to sign up beginning at 7:30 p.m. get to perform. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. \$3 (members & students, \$2). Dec. 14: House Band. Traditional British music. See Events, Dec. 15: Joel Mabus. Multi-instrumen tal folkie singer-songwriter. See Events. Dec. 17: Herdman, Hills, & Mangsen. All-star female Vocal trio. See Events. Dec. 19: Finvarra's Wren. Celtic music by this local trio. See Events. Dec. 27: "5th Annual Rockabilly Summit." With George Bedard & the Kingpins, Billy Kirchen, and Sarah Brown. See Events. 7:30 p.m. Dec. 29 & 30: "Crossroads Ceili." An evening of Irish music and dance. See Events. Dec. 31: Uncle Bonsai. Hugely popular pop-folk vocal trio. See Events. 7:30 & 10 p.m.

Azure Mediterranean Grille 625 Briarwood Circle at S. State 747-9500

This Briarwood-area Mediterranean-style restaurant features occasional live music, 7:30–9 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Dec. 2, 9, 16, & 31:** Flamenco guitarists TBA.

Babs' Liberty Street Piano Bar 112 W. Liberty 662-8757

This downtown lounge features live music Wed.-Sat., 9 p.m.-midnight. No cover, no dancing. Every Fri. (except Dec. 1): David Perample. Jazz landards by this local pianist. Every Sat .: Robert Sanders. Detroit-area jazz pianist. Dec. 6: TBA. Dec. 7: Julie Ann Cohen. Singer-pianist. Dec. 13: Nick Strange Trio. Local blues and blues-rock band. Dec. 14: Pat

nightspots

Balduck Mountain Ramblers Freedom and Guinness

Most bands would be hard put to hold their own in the din of Conor O'Neill's on a Thursday night, but the Balduck Mountain Ramblers are up to the task. This four-piece Detroit-based band has spent a good portion of the last twenty years playing "the finest American stringband musics" in similar bars-and at festivals, theaters, and more than a few gazebos-so these musicians clearly have mastered the three rules of barband success: (1) Have fun. (2) Don't be bothered when the crowd appears to be paying no attention to you. (3) Be ready to play 'Brown-Eyed Girl' at a moment's notice.

For their Conor O'Neill's gigs-the next one is Thursday, December 14-the Ramblers stick to a mostly Irish format. If you didn't already know this (I didn't), let me tell you: there are lots of Irish drinking songs to accompany one's beverage consumption, and many of them are really funny and wonderful. I should know, because I sat directly in front of the speakers and heard every note, every word, every bellow, every clap of hand and stomp of foot.

The Balduck Mountain Ramblers take their name from a small hill near Lake St. Clair, whence these laddies hail. All four graduated from a now-defunct prep school in

the area and spent too many hours staring out the window at this topographic anomaly, dreaming of freedom. The whimsy of their name matches the irreverent fun of their performing style. Backed by nimbly played guitar, bass fiddle, banjo, mandolin, and a host of other instruments, these guys sing with rich, four-part gusto, often applying a Gaelic sensibility to

unexpected material. Case in point: the song I came in on, the Grateful Dead's "Friend of the Devil." Their a cappella rendition of Stan Rogers's "Barrett's Privateers" was an exercise in bitter bravado. I found myself singing along on "God damn them all," but the chattering, Guinness-swilling undergraduates to my left did not appear to share my enthusiasm for the line, so I stopped.

The Ramblers' penchant for satire was manifest in "The Wreck of the Two-Tone DeSoto," which mocked a certain Gordon Lightfoot memorial ship ballad. They did a little Dixieland, replete with percussion on



"the bones." They tossed off a goofy, growly, half-assed rendition of the Irish Rovers favorite "The Unicorn" just to prove they could, and performed a rousing ditty about beer and tobacco that stuck in my head like glue, no matter how much decaf (black) I threw back over the course of the evening.

So if you were in the parking lot behind Conor O'Neill's one Thursday night in mid-November and witnessed two disgustingly sober people pretending to stagger to their car while singing "I am the fat man, the very fat man, who waters the workers' beer"-well, that was us.

-Kate Conner-Ruben

Brennan. Pop standards from the 40s to the 90s by this Dearborn singer-pianist. Dec. 20: Fubar. New 6-piece band led by Kingpins bassist Randy Tessier and featuring former Map of the World vocalist Sofia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Terrier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis, Steve Earle, and U2. With keyboardist Andy Adamson, trumpeter Dave Cavender, bassist Kim French, and drummer Jim Carey. Dec. 21: Julie Ann Cohen. See above. Dec. 27: Gary Detleff. Solo guitarist. Dec. 28: Pat Brennan. See above.

Bird of Paradise

312 S. Main 662-8310

This intimate jazz club owned by prominent jazz bassist Ron Brooks recently moved from S. Ashley to the basement below the Ark. Live music seven nights a week, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. (Fri.-Mon.) & 8 p.m.-midnight (Tues.-Thurs.). Cover (unless otherwise noted), no dancing. **Every Fri.** (5:30-8:30 p.m.): **Ben Yonas Trio.** Jazz ensemble led by pinnist Yonas. **Every Sun.**: **Paul Finkbeiner & Friends**. Popular high energy impression led by Friends. Popular, high-energy jam session led by trumpeter Finkbeiner. Every Mon.: Bird of Paradise Orchestra. 14-piece ensemble organized by bassists Ron Brooks and Paul Keller to showcase original compositions and arrangements by musicians from southeastern Michigan. The vary-ing lineup includes local and area jazz musicians. Every Tues.: Ron Brooks Trio. One of the state's finest jazz bassists, club owner Brooks is joined by pianist Tad Weed and drummer Pete Siers With guest vocalists TBA. Every Wed.: Los Gatos. Mambos and cha-chas by this local Latin jazz band that specializes in the music of Cal Tjader, the late San Francisco vibes player who ignited the 1950s mambo craze. Led by drummer Pete Siers, the group also includes vibes player Cary Kocher, bassist Kurt Krahnke, pianist Brian DiBlassio, and percussionist Jonathan Ovalle. Every Thurs.: Ron Brooks Trio. See above. Dec. 1 & 2: Benny Green Trio. Jazz ensemble led by the acclaimed pianist Green. See Events. 9 & 11 p.m. Dec. 8 & 9: Wallace Roney Quartet. Postbop jazz ensemble led by trumpeter Roney, a Miles Davis protege. See Events: 9 & 11:30 p.m. Dec. 15 & 16: Spanky Wilson. Soulful jazz vocalist. See Events. Dec. 22 & 23: Johnny O'Neill Trio.

Blues- and gospel-inflected jazz by an ensemble led by this veteran Detroit pianist and vocalist who currently lives in Atlanta. See Events. **Dec. 29–31**: Shahida Nurallah & Friends. Jazz ensemble led by Detroit vocalist Nurallah. See Events.

The Blind Pig 208 S. First

996-8555

This local music club features live music five nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-oftown rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 10:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., and DJs (usually) on Sun. (8 p.m.-12:30 a.m.). If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Closed most Mon. Cover (except Tues.), dancing. Every Sun. (except Dec. 3): Maximum Rock 'n' Roll. Indie, punk, noise, and other brands and off-brands of rock 'n' roll spun by variety of DJs. Every Tues.: "Showcase Night." With four different young local bands each week. Dec. 1: Prhyme #Z, a local hip-hop ensemble featuring MCs Sun, Juice, O-Type, and others. Opening act is **Total Disregard**, a hip-hop band-from Ypsilanti. **Dec. 2: Her Favorite** The Definitive Wah Project, a U-M student quintet (formerly known as Meropoix) that plays jam-oriented rock 'n' roll originals and covers, and The Griffin Shepherd, an Ypsilanti jam band. Dec. 3: Man or Astro-Man. Sci-fi surf band from Alabama. See Events. Dec. 6: Reverend Right Time And the First Cuzins of Funk. Funk sextet from Flint and Saginaw. Opening act is Bear vs. Shark, a funk band. Dec. 7: ing act is Bear vs. Shark, a funk band. Dec. 1:

B. Cook. DJ who plays hip-hop and techno music.

Dec. 8: Knee Deep Shag. Blues-based, funk-flavored rock 'n' roll band from Kalamazoo. Opening act is Ubiquitous, a groove-oriented funk band from Ypsilanti. Dec. 9: Trippin' Billies.

Dave Matthews tribute band from New York City.

See Events. Dec. 13: Madison Greene. Dave Matthews-style rock originals by this Chelsea band. Opening act is **Pon**, a similar band also from Chelsea. **Dec. 14: Half Looking.** Indigo Girls-style folk-rock by this East Lansing band. Opening act is **Levagood**, a U-M student alternative seek in roll band. **Dec. 15: Smokestack** tive rock 'n' roll band. Dec. 15: Smokestack. Bluesy, groove-oriented Ypsilanti quintet. **Dec. 16: El Topo.** Inventive postpunk funk-metal band from Ypsilanti. Opening acts are **Fringe**, an industrial-metal quartet from Toledo, and **Mighty Whitey's**

Ten-Inch Skillet, a rapcore band from Ypsilanti. Dec. 20: Mind Circus. Hard-rock metal band from Detroit. Opening act is **Detektive Riot**, also a Detroit hard-rock band. **Dec. 21: Field Theory.** Local hippie jam band. **Dec. 22: Freed.** Local alternative rock band. Opening act is **South Normal,** a popular Chelsea quintet whose anthemic rock 'n' roll originals are known for their tight arrangements, imaginatively varied rhythms, garage-band versatility, and slacker attitude. Dec. 23: Deity. Local heavy metal band. Opening acts are Big Ass Ham, an Ypsilanti hardcore band; Joe Fate, a local postpunk rock 'n' roll band; and TDX, an Ypsilanti metal band. Dec. 27: Objects of Wrath. Detroit metal band. Dec. 28: "Skool Nite." Battle of MCs; all rappers invited to sign up. DJ provided. Prizes. Dec. 29: Mazinga. Ypsilanti band that plays rough, raw, Detroit-style rock 'n' roll. Opening act is 45 Cents, a rock 'n' roll band from Westland. Dec. 30: Cloud 9. Highly regarded funk-rock party band from Jackson led by the deep, raspy vocals of Jamie Register.

Dec. 31: Funktelligence. Very popular local funk-oriented jazz-rock band with a penchant for psychedelia. Opening act is Heavy Weather, a groove-oriented funk-rock sextet from Cincinnati.

Blue Nile

221 E. Washington

998-4746

Restaurant with live jazz Fri. & Sat., 6–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri. & Sat.:** Jazz pianists TBA.

Cafe Felix

204 S. Main

662-8650

This downtown cafe features live music Fri., 9 p.m.-midnight. No cover, no dancing. Every Fri.: The Underground Jazz Quartet. This local jazz quartet plays a mix of standards, blues, contemporary pieces, and originals, with an emphasis on Hammond B-3 styles of the likes of Jimmy Smith, Larry Young, and Jack McDuff. Members are guitarist Tom Sinas, organist Duncan McMillian, alto saxophonist Dean Moore, and drummer Jordan

Caffe International

301 E. Liberty

662-1136 This downtown cafe features live acoustic music,

Fri. & Sat., 7-10. No cover, no dancing. November schedule TBA.

The Cave

332-0277 2900 Jackson Rd.

Lounge in the Best Western Suites. DJs on Fri. & Sat. 8:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Cover (Fri. & Sat. only), dancing. Every Fri. & Sat.: Reggae Night. With DJ Kelly. Every Sat.: Latin Night. With

Cavern Club

332-9900 210 S. First

This downtown club, in the Celebration Cellars banquet space in the basement under the new Millennium Club, features DJs on Thurs, and live music on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover (includes admission to Millennium Club and Gotham City), dancing. Ages 21 & older admitted, Every Thurs.: Dance Mix. With DJ Mad Maxx. Dec. 1: George Bedard & the Kingpins. Superfine honky-tonk dance tunes from swing to vintage blues, country, rockabilly, and early rock 'n' roll classics, with some memorable originals penned by guitar genius Bedard. With drummer Rich Dishman and bassist Randy Tessier. The band recently released its eagerly awaited 3rd CD, Triple Crown. Dec. 2: Starlight Drifters. Rockabilly and honky-tonk originals and covers by this local quartet led by indomitable local rocker Chris Casello, who plays electric and steel guitar. With vocalist Billy Alton, bassist Rudy Varner, acoustic guitarist Mike Thomp son, and drummer Mark Gray. The band's recently released 2nd CD, Every Note a Pearl, comes with a recommendation from Jack Scott, whose immortal "The Way I Walk" the band covers. Dec. 8: Lady Sunshine & the X Band. Local gospel-flavored blues band led by Lady Sunshine, a fiery, richvoiced singer whose style is something of a cross be-tween Aretha Franklin, Koko Taylor, and Denise aSalle. Dec. 9: Joce'lyn B & the Detroit Street Players. Detroit blues band led by Joce'lyn B, a popular vocalist who's said to blend the voice of "Bessie Smith, the attitude of Mae West, and the mouth of Moms Mabley." Her recently re-leased debut CD, Bitch a da Blues, features originals hat range from the racy "Sweet Potato Pie" to the poignant "Chase Away the Blues," along with covers of "Walking the Dog," "Mustang Sally," and the Hayes & Porter standard "When Something Is Wrong with My Baby." Dec. 16: Bugs Beddow Band. Versatile horn-driven R&B, boogie-rock, blues, and jazz ensemble led by veteran Detroit trombonist Beddow. Dec. 22: Thornetta **Davis.** Soulful, rocking Detroit-style R&B by a band led by Davis, a powerful, Etta James-style vocalist. Dec. 23: Immunity. Local dancehall reggae band. Dec. 29: Bon Temps Roulle. Detroit band led by singer-keyboardist Leonard Moon that plays New Orleans-style R&B. Dec. 30: Lady Sunshine & the X Band. See above. Dec. 31: "New Year's Party." With the Starlight Drifters (see above) and Thornetta Davis

Conor O'Neill's

665-2968 318 S. Main

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. (6:30–10 p.m.), Wed., & Thurs. (9 a.m.–2 a.m.). **Every** Sun.: Traditional Irish Session. All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. **Every Tues.** (except December 26): **Open Mike.** All musicians invited. Hosted by Chris Paule of Brad's Dead Fish. Dec. 6: Six Mile Bridge. Traditional Irish band from New York City. Dec. 7: Randy Brock & the Blues Insurgents. Blues by this Detroit band. Dec. 13: Bill Long. Irish rock and American pop by this local singer-guitarist. Dec. 14: Balduck Mountain Ramblers. See review, p. 115. Award-winning area quartet that plays everything from sea shanties and pub songs to bluegrass and western swing. Their Conor O'Neill shows draw mostly on their vast repertoire of traditional Irish songs and tunes. Dec. 20: The Bowzies. Irish folk ballads by the trio of Detroit-area veterans Terry Murphy, Gerard Smith, and Len Wallace. Dec. 21: Central Sun. Traditional Irish music, along with some Celtic rock, by this acoustic band from Battle Creek. Dec. 27: Bill Long. See ove. Dec. 28: Friends of Shamrock's Shore. Irish folk ballads by this area band

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room 665-9468 114 S. Main

This tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore fea tures live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 8:30-10:30

p.m. No cover, no dancing. Dec. I: Rollie Tussing III. Blues classics and blues-based originals by this local vocalist and multi-instrumentalist, who plays a National steel guitar. Dec. 2: Jo Serrapere. This highly regarded local singer-songwriter is known for her spare, haunting ballads and blues nd her sinewy, commanding vocals. Dec. 8: Matthew Ruby. Artfully crafted originals by this singer-songwriter from upstate New York who currently lives in Chelsea. Dec. 9: Summers, Delaney, & Sharp. See Firefly. Dec. 15: Laurie White & Lucia Nerenberg. Latin American songs and provocative originals by this guitar-andvocal duo. Dec. 16: Nick Strange Duo. Mellow folk-rock originals by this duo led by singer-songwriter Strange. Dec. 22: Kevin Meisel. Highly regarded local singer-songwriter who specializes in narrative ballads. **Dec. 29: Lori Fithian.** Drum and song circle led by this local percussionist.

Creekside Grill and Bar 827-2737 5827 lackson Rd.

The intimate bar area of this restaurant in Scio Township features live music occasional Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.-midnight. No cover, no dancing. December schedule TBA.

Crow Bar 309 S. Main

668-0111

This downtown gay dance club features DJs Thurs.—Sat., 9 p.m.—2 a.m. Dancing, cover.

Del Rio 122 W. Washington

761-2530

No cover, no dancing. Live music Sun., 5:30-9 p.m., and Tues., 5-7 p.m. Dec. 3: Rick Burgess Quartet. Jazz ensemble led by pianist Burgess and featuring alto saxophonist Vincent York. Dec. 5: TBA. Dec. 10: Jazz ensemble TBA. Dec. 12: TBA. Dec. 17: Rick Burgess Quartet. See above. Dec. 19: TBA. Dec. 24: No music. Dec. 26: TBA. Dec. 31: Jazz ensemble TBA.

The Drowsy Parrot 105 N. Ann Arbor St., Saline 429-8595

This Saline coffeehouse features open mikes on Thurs. and live music on occasional Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. Every Thurs .: Open Mike. All acoustic musicians, poets, and storytellers invited. Hosted by local singer-songwriter Dave Boutette. Dec. 1: Karl Sikkenga. Acoustic originals by this local singer-songwriter and guitarist. Dec. 2: TBA. Dec. 8: Mike Deluca & Chris Ranu. Acoustic folk, blues, and originals by this singer-guitarist duo. Remainder of December schedule TBA.

The Earle

121 W. Washington 994-0211

Restaurant with live jazz Mon.—Sat., 8–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. Every Mon.: Rick Burgess. Solo pianist. Every Tues.: Duncan McMillian. Solo pianist. Every Wed.: Rick Burgess. Solo pianist. Every Thurs.: Jake Reichbart. Solo jazz guitaries. Every Ent. 9. Scale Pal. P. Solo jazz guitarist. Every Fri. & Sat.: Rick Burgess Trio. Jazz ensemble featuring pianist Burgess, bassist Robert Warren, and a drummer TBA.

Elbow Room

6 S. Washington, Ypsilanti 483-6374

This Ypsilanti tavern feature DJs on Wed. & Sat., and live music Sun.-Tues., Thurs., & Fri. 9:30 p.m.a.m. Dancing, no cover. Every Wed.: Open Mike. All bands and solo musicians invited. by Rob Moses of the Chance Band. Every Wed.: Retro Rock Dance Party. With DJ Charlie Frey. **Every Thurs.:** DJ Chuck plays alternative rock 'n' roll from the late 60s through the 90s. **Dec.** 1: Larval. Avant-garde Detroit jazz ensemble whose style has been compared to John Zorn. Opening act is **Cornish in a Turtleneck**, an inventive experimental pop trio from Ypsilanti with a locally acclaimed debut CD, *It's Broasted*. **Dec. 2:** 12 Angry Steps. Ypsilanti band that plays vintage Detroit rock 'n' roll, a la the Stooges and the MC5. Opening acts are 2 similar Detroit bands, The Sights and Electricity. Dec. 8: TBA. Dec. 9: The Bitter Pills. Vintage punk thrash band that plays both covers and originals. Opening the Done Wrongs. Dec. 15: TBA. Dec. 16: The Plumbobs. Reunion of this local poppunk band led by singer-songwriter Johnny Rigg. Opening act is Aurora, a local band that plays spacey, neopsychedelic rock 'n' roll. Dec. 22: TBA. Dec. 23: Thrall. Ypsilanti band that plays grungy garage-rock. Dec. 29 & 30: TBA. Dec. 21: Fasy Action. 70: rock 'n' roll with a barden. 31: Easy Action. 70s rock 'n' roll with a hardcore

edge by this Detroit area band featuring members of the Laughing Hyenas and Big Chief.

Espresso Royale Caffe 668-1838 214 S. Main

The downtown location of this popular coffeehouse features live music on Fri. & occasional Sat., 9-11 p.m. Dec. I: Rath Og. Traditional Irish music by this local quartet that features uillean piper Tyler Duncan, 1st-place winner in the All-Ireland world competition. With fiddler Michael Gavin, flutist Sean Gabin, and percussionist Glenn Bering. Dec. 2: The Great Lakes Ramblers. An eclectic mix of swing, country, folk, and jazz, including both standards and obscure gems, by the trio of local acoustic veterans Myron Grant, Debbie Jackson, and

Paul Winder. Dec. 8: Glenn Bering. This local multi-instrumentalist plays original meditative compositions and improvisations on sitar. Dec. 9: Blue Tango. Local folk- and blues-inflected rock 'n' roll quintet led by vocalist Surry Scheerer and guitarist Jack Scheerer. Dec. 15: Glenn Bering. See above. Dec. 16: David Mosher. An eclecti mix of acoustic originals by this popular local singer-songwriter and virtuoso guitarist who has released a CD, Sycamore Tree. Dec. 22: Rath Og. See above. Tonight Michael Gavin is replaced by Jeremy Allan Kittel, the American junior national fiddle champion. **Dec. 23:** No music. **Dec. 29: Roy** Scoutz. New Age instrumental covers of everything from Bach to the Beatles, along with some

original ballads, by this acoustic guitarist from Allen

The Firefly Club 207 S. Ashley

Park. Dec. 30: No music.

665-9090

New jazz club in the former home of the Bird of Paradise. Live jazz Mon.-Thurs., 8 p.m.-midnight, and Fri. & Sat., 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Also, a Friday happy-hour band, 5-7:30 p.m., and a Sunday jazz brunch, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Cover, no dancing. Every Thurs. (5-7 p.m.): Either jazz guitarist Jake Reichbart or pianist Rick Roe. Every Fri. (5:30-8 p.m.): Easy Street Swingtet. Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Paul Klinger. Every Sun.: Motor City Sheiks. Jump blues originals by this Detroit quartet led by blues harpist and vocalist Mark Robinson and former Detroit Blues Band guitarist Emmanuel Garza. Every Mon.: TBA. Every Tues.: **Swingset.** Swing-era jazz standards by this ensemble led by U-M music professor James Dapogny, a nationally renowned old-time jazz pianist, and featuring vocalist Susan Chastain. Every Wed .: Paul Keller Ensemble. High-energy mainstream jazz by this ensemble led by bassist Keller that features 3 horns. **Every Thurs.**: Either the Rick Roe Quartet, a local jazz ensemble led by pianist Roe, or the Ellen Rowe Trio, a jazz ensemble led by pianist Rowe, the U-M undergrad jazz studies director. Dec. 1 & 2: Jim Cooper Quartet. Straight-ahead jazz standards and originals by this ensemble led by Chicago-based vibramist Cooper. Dec. 4: Jason Gittinger & Whetstone. An eclectic mix of R&B-oriented electric music by this ensemble led by drummer Gittinger. Dec. 8: Paul Vornhagen Quartet. Upbeat Latin jazz and swing-bop by this ensemble led by local saxophonist and flutist Vornhagen. With bassist Kurt Krahnke, drummer Randy Marsh, and nist Sven Anderson. Dec. 9: Alberta Adams & the R. J. Spangler Blues Crew. Blues band led by acclaimed veteran Detroit blues shouter Adams. Dec. 11: Heidi Snyder. A former member of the all-female Blue Sun String Quintet, this local singer-songwriter with a warm, luminous 3-octave voice performs a mix of jazz standards, jazz arrangements, and original songs that blend metallic jazz scales with the tunefulness of pop and the evocativeness of folk tunes. She is accompanied by a vocal trio, jazz pianist David Perample, Abyssinian String Quartet cellist Stefan Koch, guitarist Tim Labrie, bassist David Sharp, and her husban cussionist Steve Snyder. Dec. 15 & 16: Louis Smith Quartet. Jazz ensemble led by veteran Detroit bebop trumpeter Smith, a retired U-M jazz professor and Pioneer High music teacher. With pianist Gary Shunk, bassist Jeff Halsey, and drummer Burt Myrick. Dec. 18: Mark Kieme & His Christmas Bash. Jazz ensemble led by local saxophonist Kieme. Dec. 22 & 23: Swingset. See above. Dec. 29: Summers, Delaney, & **Sharp.** Acoustic gypsy swing in the style of Django Reinhardt by the local trio of guitarists Joe Summers and Brian Delaney and upright bassist Dave Sharp. **Dec. 30:Tim Ries.** Jazz ensemble led by this highly regarded young tenor and soprano jazz saxophonist, a Tecumseh native currently living in New York City who records for the Criss Cross label. Dec. 31: "New Year's Eve Party." With Los Gatos (see Bird of Paradise) and the Susan

Chastain Quartet, a jazz ensemble led by vocalist Chastain

Gandy Dancer 401 Depot

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Restaurant with live piano every night. No cover, no dancing. Every Sun. (10 a.m.-2 p.m.): Charles Gabriel Jazz Trio. Vintage New Orleans jazz by a Detroit trio led by singer-bassist (and New Orleans native) Gabriel. Every Sun. (3:30-9 p.m.): Alice Rhodes. Solo piano. Every Mon.-Wed. (6-11 hnodes. Solo piano. Every Mon.—Wed. (6–11 p.m.): Tim Howley. This local pianist plays a variety of popular music and takes requests. Every Thurs. (6–9 p.m.), Fri. (5:30–9 p.m.), & Sat. (6 p.m.—midnight): Carl Alexius. Veteran local jazz pianist who takes requests for oldies.

Gotham City 210 S. First

913-8890

This new downtown dance club, located above the Cavern Club and adjacent to the Millennium Club, features DJs on Thurs. and live music on Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover (includes admission to Cavern and Millennium clubs), dancing. Ages 21 & older admitted. Every Thurs.: Classic Rock. With DJ Mad Maxx. Dec. 1, 2, 8, & 9: TBA. Dec. 15: Reefermen. Detroit rock 'n' roll band. Dec. 22: TBA. Dec. 23: Twistin' Tarantulas. Very popular Detroit rockabilly band. Dec. 29 & 30: TBA. Dec. 31: Face. Detroit quartet led by vocalist Courtney that plays Black Crowes-style rock 'n'

The Habitat

665-3636 3050 Jackson Rd.

Lounge at Weber's Inn. Solo piano (6-9 p.m.) by Adam Riccinto (Tues.-Fri.) and Tom Knapp (Sat. & Sun.). Dancing, no cover. Every Mon.: "Swank Life." DJ Al Velour spins vintage big band records. Period attire encouraged. 4 p.m.-midnight. Dec. 1 & 2: Immunity. Local dancehall reggae band. Dec. 5–9: Terry Cooper Band. Top 40 dance band. Dec. 12–16: Destiny. Top 40 dance band. Dec. 19–23: Spellbound. Popsoul band. Dec. 26: "Swank Life." See above. Dec. 27–31: Spellbound. See above.

The Heidelberg 215 N. Main

663-7758

This rock 'n' roll club on the top floor of the Heidelberg Restaurant features live music, Sat. & occasional Tues., 10 p.m.–2 a.m.; DJs Thurs. & Fri., 10 p.m.–2 a.m.; and a swing band on Sun., 7–9:30 p.m. Cover, dancing. Also, occasional live music in the base ment Rathskeller (no cover), 8 p.m. until midnight or later. Ages 21 & older admitted unless otherwise noted. Every Sun.: II-V-I Orchestra. Late-30s swing and 40s R&B. See Events. 7–9:30 p.m. Every Thurs.: Dancehall Reggae. With DJs Billy the Kid and Jello. Every Fri.: Latino Night. DJ Carlos plays salsa, merengue, reggae, and other Latin dance records. Also, salsa lessons, 9:30-10:30 p.m. Dec. 2: Universal Expression. Reggae, soca, and calypso by this Detroitbased band. With Phantom, Scorpin, Umi, and other guest vocalists. Dec. 9: Lambda Theta Alpha/Lambda Theta Phi 25th Anniversary Celebration. With a variety of dance mus played by DJs from Group Composite. Dec. 16, 23, & 30: No music.

Kerrytown Bistro 415 N. Fourth Ave.

994-6424

This Kerrytown restaurant features live jazz on Wed., 7-10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every** Wed.: Jake Reichbart. Solo jazz guitarist.

Leonardo's

2101 Bonisteel Blvd. 764-7544

Performance area in the food court at the Pierpont Commons on the U-M North Campus. No dancing, no cover. Dec. 4: Jazz Jam Session. All musicians invited. 8-10 p.m. Dec. 6: Dean Moore II Quartet. Jazz ensemble. Dec. 7: Thursday Night Jazz. U-M music-student jazz ensembles TBA. 8-10 p.m. Dec. 8: 2nd Friday Swing **Night.** Live swing music by a U-M music school ensemble. Preceded at 9 p.m. by swing dance lessons. 10 p.m.-midnight. Dec. II: Jazz Jam Session. See above.

Millennium Club

210 S. First

913-8890

This new downtown dance club, located above the Cavern Club and adjacent to the new Gotham City club, features DJs Thurs.-Sat., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover (includes admission to Cavern Club and Gotham City), dancing. Ages 21 & older admitted. Every Thurs. & Fri.: Techno Night. With DJ Mad Maxx. Every Sat.: Top 40 Night. With DJ

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317 W. Cross, Ypsilanti 482-8020 This coffeehouse near the EMU campus features oc-casional live music. No cover, no dancing. **Every** Thurs.: Open Mike. All poets and musicians invited. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

The Nectarine 510 E. Liberty

994-5436 This popular local New York-style dance club features DJs five nights a week, 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover, tures DJs five nights a week, 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Cover, dancing. Every Fri.: Boys' Night Out. With DJ Roger LeLievre. Every Sat.: 80s & 90s Dance Party. With DJ Roger LeLievre. Every Tues.: Boys' Night Out. See above. Every Wed.: Ladies' Night. With DJ Brian Melberg. Every Thurs.: EuroBeat Dance Party. European style house, techno, and alternative dance. ropean-style house, techno, and alternative dance music with DJ Roger LeLievre.

Rick's American Cafe 611 Church

996-2747 This campus-area club features DJs Mon. & Wed.-Sat., 10 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Large dance floor. Dancing, Every Mon.: "Maui Mondays." DJ John King plays a relaxing mix of dance and listen-ing music. Every Wed.: "Modern Dance Party." DJ John King plays high-energy dance music. Every Thurs.: "Techno Dance Party." With DJ Otto. Every Fri. & Sat.: Supermack. Techno music with DJs from Supermack. roductions. Dec. 31: "New Year's Eve Party." Details TBA

Sweetwaters Cafe 107 S. Ann Arbor St., Saline 944-4054

Live music on Thurs., 7:30-9:30 p.m. No cover, no dancing. Dec. 7: Jere Stormer. Local folk-oriented singer-songwriter. Dec. 14: TBA. Dec. 21:
Roy Scoutz. See Espresso Royale. Dec. 28:
Open Mike. All singers, poets, and storytellers invited. Also, a performance by local singer-songwriter Lili Fox.

Tap Room 201 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 482-5320 This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavem features live music five nights a week, usually 9:30 p.m.—1:30 a.m., with karaoke on Sun., 9:30 p.m.—1:30 a.m. Cover (Fri. & Sat. only), dancing. Every Mon.: Open Mike Unplugged. Hosted by Chris Buhalis, a local singer-songwriter and acoustic **Buhalis,** a local singer-songwriter and acoustic guitarist. All acoustic performers invited. 9:30 -1 a.m. Every Tues.: Blues Jam. Hosted by the Terraplanes, a local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack, featuring new vocalist Laurie Lee Morris, that plays a mix of houserocking blues, up town swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. With bassist John Allesee, guitarist Loren Hsieh, key-boardist and blues harpist Phil Riskey, and drummer Allen Powelson. All bands and musicians invited. Every Wed.: Open Mike. Hosted by The Martindales, a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and ginals. All acoustic and electric musicians invited Every Thurs.: "Free Play Jukebox Night." Dance or listen to the tunes on the Tap Room stocked jukebox—for free! Dec. I: The Blue-Rays. Local blues band led by guitarist Dave Kafan. Dec. 2: The Mojo Phoenix Blues Band. Lansing blues quartet led by a female voc who also plays harmonica. Dec. 8 & 9: Witch Doctors. This local blues and R&B band led by singer-guitarist Thayrone, best known as the host of WEMU's nationally syndicated Bone Conduction Music Show, plays what Thayrone calls "way-strong mojo, ritualistic barroom blues healing." With pianist and saxophonist Dave Danniele, bassist Doug Cameron, and drummer Mike "The Hammer" Stutso. Dec. 15:The Resistors. Toledo-based blues-rock band led by a female vocalist. Dec. 16:The Danny Pratt Band. Local blues band led by singer-guitarist Pratt. Dec. 22: The Terraplanes. See above. Tonight the band show-Cases material from its new CD, Well Tuned. Dec. 23:The Pulse. Detroit-area pop-rock band. Dec. 29: Los Diablos. Country originals and covers by this quintet of Community High grads led by former Blue Vinyl drummer B. J. Hill on guitar and vocals.

Also, guitarist Ian Wolfe, bassist Toby Summerfield, and two members of Lucky Haskins, vocalist Ryan

Racine and drummer Dave Brophy. Dec. 30: Glenn Eddy Band. Vintage blues by this De-troit-area band led by singer-guitarist Eddy. Dec. 31: Ben Moore and the Blues Express. Motown, R&B, and blues by this Detroit-area band featuring vocalist Sweet Tina.

TC's Speakeasy 207 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 483-4470

This downtown Ypsilanti tavern features DJs Tues. (9 p.m.-1 a.m.) and dance bands Thurs.-Sat. (9:30 p.m.—1:30 a.m.). Solo piano by Art Stephan on Fri., 6–9 p.m. Dancing, no cover unless otherwise noted. **Every Tues.: "Tite-Ass Tuesday."** Dance music with DJ Speed E. Smith. Dec. 1: Makafroii.
Pop-rock band from Ypsilanti. Dec. 2: Funktelligence. See Blind Pig. Dec. 7: Nick Strange
and the Bare Nakeds. Popular local blues & reggae dance band. Dec. 8: Ghettobillies. Local acoustic guitar trio that specializes in sweet & gritty country-rock with glee club harmonies, a frat band lyrical sensibility, and occasional neopsychedelic yearnings. The band has a new CD, Butterface. Dec. 9: Half Looking. See Blind Pig. Dec. 14: TBA. Dec. 15: King Snakes. Blues band from East Detroit. Dec. 16: Steve Somers Band. Topnotch soul-flavored R&B, blues, and 70s funk sextet led by Somers, a versatile guitarist with a pungent, staccato style, and vocalist Valerie Barrymore. The band recently released a CD, Foundation of Funk. Dec. 21: Astro Pimps. Local jam-oriented funk band. Dec. 22: The Chance Band. Classic rock. Earlier in the evening, the band plays Christmas music. **Dec. 23:** No music. **Dec. 28:Three-**Foot Bongo. Acoustic local jam-oriented folk-rock trio. Dec. 29: Deep Space 6. Local Grateful Dead cover band. Dec. 30: TBA. Dec. 31: Electric Boogaloo. Hippie rock band from Ypsilanti that recently released its debut CD, Blues for the Dog.

Theo Doors

705 W. Cross, Ypsilanti 485-6720 This EMU campus—area restaurant turns into a dance club after 10 p.m., with live music Fri. and DJs Mon.—Thurs. & Sat. Cover, dancing. **Every Mon.**—

Thurs. & Sat.: Modern & Retro. DJs spin Top 40 dance tunes. Every Fri.: TBA.

Touchdown Cafe 1220 South University

665-7777

This campus-area cafe features DJs Thurs.—Sat., 10 p.m.—2 a.m. Cover, dancing. **Every Thurs.—Sat.:** DJs TBA play hip-hop and other dance records

Underground 911 North University

763-4652

This all-ages club in the Michigan League basement features live music occasional Fri., 9-11 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). No cover (unless otherwise noted), dancing. Dec. 8: Paradime. Detroit hip-hop en-

Zanzibar

216 S. State

994-7777

This campus-area restaurant features live jazz nightly, 5–10 p.m. (Mon.–Thurs.), 5–11 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 5–9 p.m. (Sun.). No cover, no dancing. Every Night: Community High School Jazz En**semble.** Jazz by various duos and trios from the award-winning Community High jazz program.

Zou Zou's Cafe

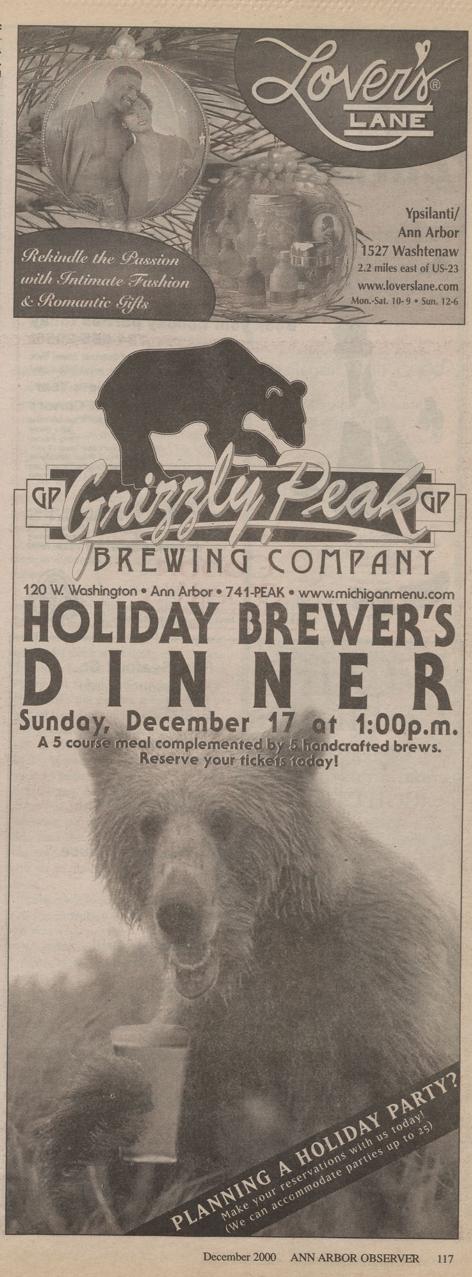
101 N. Main, Chelsea

This Chelsea cafe features live music Fri. & Sat. and occasional Wed., 8–11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. Dec. 1: Mike Beattie. Acoustic folk and rock y this Whitmore Lake singer-guitarist. Dec. 2: John Barton. Folk-rock originals by this singer-songwriter and guitarist. Dec. 8: The Bridge Club. Jazz and blues by this guitar trio. Dec. 9: Debbie Fogell. Jazz vocalist. Dec. 15: John Patrick Brophy. Singer-guitarist who also plays Chet Atkins-style instrumentals. Dec. 16: Paul Allen. Classical guitarist. Dec. 22: Alex Anest. Jazz standards and originals by this local guitarist. Dec. 23: Gregory Stovetop. Local pop-folk singer-songwriter influenced by Tom Petty and Bob Dylan. Dec. 29 & 30: TBA.

Zydeco 314 S. Main

995-3600

Live music, Tues.—Sat., 6–8 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Tues.—Sat.: Al Hill.** Soulful New Orleans—flavored R&B by this veteran local singer-pianist. See Cavern Club.







The most festive time of the year.

Join us at our beautifully decorated inn for a lovely luncheon or elegant dinner this season.

Whether you try our delightful seafood entrees or our unique game dinners, this will be one of the highlights of your holiday. Festive desserts will cap your meal and be a sweet ending to the millennium.

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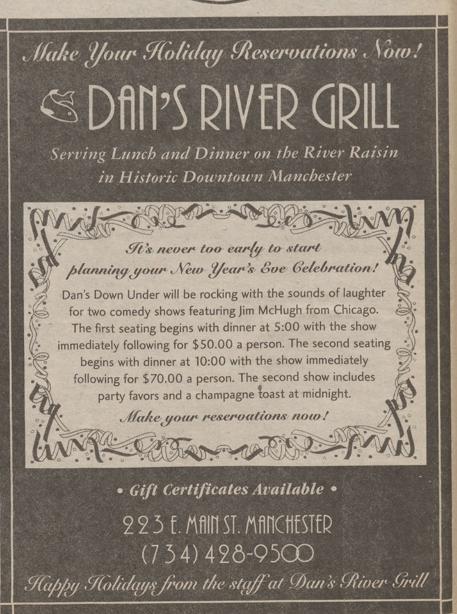
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A participant of Dine Out Ann Arbor — December 1st — World AIDS Day.

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life

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RESTAURANTS



Zydeco Louisiana Kitchen

French Quarter

et's face it: Ann Arbor's Main
Street doesn't have much in common with the French Quarter of New Orleans. About the only similarities that come to mind are the crowds at the Art Fairs, and even then we're only talking numbers—the French Quarter crowd is miles ahead in raucous behavior.

Now a new restaurant has come along that looks as if it had been forklifted straight out of Chartres Street and dropped in the middle of our restaurant row. Like many French Quarter cafes, Zydeco Louisiana Kitchen breaks down the barrier between the restaurant and the street with doors that open out onto the sidewalk. Personally, though, I prefer sitting near the back bar that sprawls all the way up to the sixteen-foot ceiling (there's a happy hour weekdays from 4:30 to 6:30 and, after 10:30, "late night" specials on rum runners and draft beer).

My husband grew up in New Orleans, and we both found ourselves feeling right at home, especially since owner Perry Porikos tries to keep the place festive. Most evenings Al Hill dons a beret and bangs out piano jazz. On weekends the Packed restaurant doesn't close till 1 a.m.

Louisiana's Cajun people are full of life and a love for sensory pleasure, and so is their cuisine. Zydeco's emphasis is on home cooking, with dishes that might appear on any dinner table in Breaux Bridge or Lafayette. But every New Orleans chain restaurant has a similar menu, so I

was happy to learn that shortly after I completed my visits, chefs Shawn Boucher and Heladio Hernandez began featuring weekly specials. (One early offering was an alligator and tasso ham deep-fried burrito-not typical Creole fare, but it's good to see experimentation.)

I went to Zydeco with a mental checklist of dishes that define authentic New Orleans food. Heading the list was gumbo, a dish so soul-satisfying that anyone calling it soup should be sent out back to shuck oys-

ters with a plastic knife. At Zydeco both the seafood gumbo and the Gumbo Ya Ya, a blend of chicken and andouille sausage in a rich brown roux, are hearty and delicious (\$4.65/cup, \$8.75/bowl).

We especially liked the mixed boiled shrimp and raw oysters (market price, \$15.95 that day), mainly because they were exactly what they were supposed to be. You get a pound of each. So often boiled shrimp tastes as if it had been sterilized in an operating room. These shrimp had real oomph all the way through, a sign they had napped amply in spiked water (in this case seasoned with Zatarain's, a popular Louisiana seafood boil mix). When it comes to raw oysters, Zydeco has quite a disclaimer on its menu. The "You-weredamn-well-warned-so-forget-about-suingus" legal boilerplate makes ordering oysters feel almost as risky as bungee jumping. We went ahead anyway and found them fresh and sufficiently salty.

The Louisiana crab cakes (appetizer \$10.50, entree \$18.25) will make the hearts of lump-meat purists soar. Chopped peppers and onions beef up the patties along with a double sauce of rémoulade and a Cajun mustard.

The blackened-oyster-and-shrimp fondue (\$7.95) wasn't on my checklist, but it was a pleasant surprise. The fondue is made from Monterey Jack, Fontina, and cream cheeses; red, green, and yellow peppers; and shrimp, oysters, and bacon, with Zydeco's own secret seasonings. Like many other Cajun dishes, this one requires you to eat with your hands, and the velvety fondue goes easily on the chunks of French toasted bread. (The bread tasted stale my first time there but had improved remarkably on later visits. When I asked about the transformation, chef Boucher explained that after much experimentation, they'd finally found a satisfactory bakery.)

Good bread is especially important when you are making po' boys, Louisiana's version of the hero sandwich or submarine. Zydeco delivers authentic ones, made with your choice of fried catfish, shrimp, grilled fish, or chicken (\$8.95). Someone told a friend the lettuce wasn't sliced to proper New Orleans standards, but this sandwich isn't about the lettuce. The fried oyster po' boy I had could have come from Mother's on Poydras Street, and that's good enough for me.

I tried the shrimp and crawfish étouffée (\$14.75) and the jambalaya (\$15.95). The étouffée is served over rice with a voluptuous seafood gravy. To call it a hearty meal is an understatement—share it or be prepared to ask for a gurney ride back to your car. The jambalaya is full of shrimp, chicken, andouille sausage, and the slightly smoky flavor of tasso ham, tossed with rice. As with nearly everything Cajun, the base is onions, celery, and red and green peppers—it's the details that make or break the dish. I enjoyed Zydeco's étouffée and jambalaya but wished they'd done more to distinguish the spicing of the two dishes.

The least expensive dinner entree is red beans and rice with andouille sausage (\$10.25). The Camellia red beans and andouille come directly from New Orleans, and maybe that's what made this so good. The sauce has the right consistency, not watery but thick, and is perfectly seasoned. Like the gumbo, it is the kind of comfort food that will draw me back.

If you have diet issues, you are out of luck at Zydeco. The bread pudding (\$4.25) is awash in a decadent bourbon sauce so intoxicating we spoke of it in hushed tones. And although the bananas Foster sundae (\$5.50) doesn't include flambéing the rum and bananas at your table (and the possible risk of singeing your waiter's eyebrows), it compensates with an explosion of flavors in your mouth.

Service was typical Ann Arbor casual with the exception of our lunch waiter, who was very attentive—he had the discreet watchfulness that I most appreciate.

At Mulate's, the French Quarter's quintessential hard-core Cajun restaurant, it's common to see a grinning, half-toothless Cajun *grand-mère* shuffling around on the sawdust-covered dance floor. I half expected her to show up at Zydeco. She would tell me to stop taking life so seriously. And at Zydeco, I might be inclined to agree.

-Elizabeth Méricas

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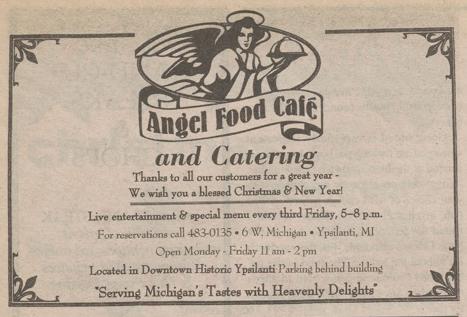
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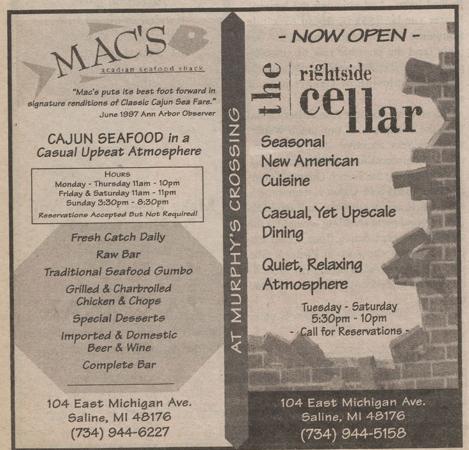
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Zanzibar

Pompous

used to love taking out-of-town guests to Zanzibar, where the quirky pantropical menu seemed particularly Ann Arbor-like. Recently Zanzibar changed its format to more generically upscale, with a New American menu and a newly pompous attitude.

When I called to make reservations, the hostess told me that they were awfully busy that night but could probably accommodate our party. Imagine my surprise when we walked into a half empty restaurant. Maybe everyone was busy somewhere else, because we waited ten minutes for water and menus. We could only shrug when we read the warning printed on the back of the wine list: "We gladly stand behind everything we put on the menu. If, however, you try to subvert the will of the menu planners and cobble together some bizarre culinary concoction of your own, all bets are off."

After another ten minutes a waiter deigned to take our orders. When a friend asked for his chili-braised chicken extra spicy, the waiter stuck his nose in the air and sniffed, "We'll see what we can do." I guess this request fell under subverting the will of the menu planners. Yes, I know we're in a labor crunch and most waitstaff are students, but I'm not asking for überwaiter. All I expect is someone polite and reasonably prompt. Even that minimum standard was reached only once out of my three visits to Zanzibar.

My dismay at the service was eased by the arrival of the appetizers and salads. Calamari (\$6.95) were fried to a perfect tenderness, and the lemongrass aioli was an unusual but very complementary dipping sauce. The smoked Atlantic salmon (\$6.95) melted in the mouth. It comes on tasty pancakes made with corn and rice, dotted with avocado and sour cream. I tried a bite with all three elements, but found it overwhelming. I could have ordered this as an entree and enjoyed each component separately.

The arugula salad (\$4.95) blends pancetta, white beans, and Parmesan dressing over crisp arugula and grilled asparagus. It's a unique and delicious combination. The Caesar (\$4.95) is easily the best I've ever eaten, with the Parmesan and garlic blended in perfect proportions.

Sadly, the meal went downhill from there. I ordered the grilled yellowfin tuna (\$17.95) cooked medium. What I got was a dried, overdone brick, with burnt asparagus on the side. The wild mushroom pasta (\$12.95) was drowning in butter, to the exclusion of all other flavors. The Caribbean seafood stew (\$17.95) was better, but the mango-curry sauce overpowered the delicate scallops and fish.

I had better luck with the entrees on my second visit. The chili-braised chicken picadillo (\$10.95) is a spicy chicken hash,

served with sweet potato and grilled pineapple. Predictably, our request for extra chili was ignored, but even so, this was an interesting, flavorful dish. The flashfried haddock (\$16.95) was actually spicier than the picadillo and came with an in-



triguing cabbage-peanut slaw.

Dessert was the nadir of the meal. I rarely meet a dessert I don't like, but I did at Zanzibar—repeatedly. The goat cheese cheesecake (\$5.95) was especially nasty, as if the pastry chef had mistaken salt for sugar. The crust of the mango tart (\$5.95) was so hard it splintered under my fork, and the lime filling was only slightly less sour than the underripe mangoes used for decoration. English toffee cake (\$5.95), while pretty in presentation, was nothing special to eat.

When I asked for cream in my afterdinner coffee, the waiter, with an enormous flourish, pulled out a glass flask, complete with metal-hooked stopper. Everyone at our table just looked at each other and laughed.

—Margaret Yang

Zanzibar 216 South State 994–7777 Mon.–Thurs. 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11:30 a.m.–11 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.–9 p.m.

Quick Bites

On December 1 nearly seventy Ann Arbor restaurants will donate 10 percent of their day's sales to the Midwest AIDS Prevention Project. Scheduled to coincide with World AIDS Day, "Dine Out Ann Arbor" is modeled after a successful sister event in Detroit. The participating restaurants include the Real Seafood Company, Palio, Gratzi, Dexter's Pub, Smoke House Blues, BD's Mongolian Barbeque, Scorekeepers, and the \aut\BAR. See www.aidsprevention.org for a complete list of participating restaurants.

-M.Y.

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Got a restaurant comment or a tip for Quick Bites? Send E-mail to ASquareEat @aol.com.

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MARKETPLACE

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Motte & Bailey steps out from the web

here is no Motte or Bailey behind the new Motte & Bailey, Booksellers, which opened on Ann Street in October. In medieval Europe a "motte and bailey" was a crude castle made of mounded earth and timber, to be rebuilt With more permanent materials as time permitted. The name fits, not because the store is temporary, but because it specializes in used and rare history books, and one of its specialties is Britain. Also, "Motte & Bailey" sounds like the name of a quaint West End bookshop-unlike "Alloway, Murphy, and Hare," the names of the three men who own the store and together sound like a Dublin law firm.

Motte & Bailey launched in 1996 as an Internet store and is just now opening its first brick-and-mortar location. Founder Gene Alloway is head and webmaster of the U-M's Information and Library Studies Library; he started Motte & Bailey online in part to indulge a passion for Byzantine history going back to his college days. When he realized he wanted to expand his store into the real world, he tapped a couple of friends as partners: Paul Hare, a history M.A. with a special interest in religion, and John Murphy, a former Borders staffer whose area of interest is early American political theory.

The store, which moved in after Barefoot Doctors Apothecary relocated to Walled Lake, opened with over 8,000 titles. The emphasis is on history, literary criticism, and scholarly texts, but the store also sells cookbooks, children's books, mysteries and thrillers, and science fiction. Alloway notes on his website that although he tries to concentrate on history he has sold just about every genre, from a nineteenth-century book on Sri Lankan geography to contemporary Pulitzer Prize-winning fiction. The three men find their stock among their own collections and at library, garage, and estate sales, and even occasionally from other dealers. Some of it is actually new. "I picked up the first printing of Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone and sold it for twenty times the price in six months," Alloway says. "If it's the best book, if it has scholarly or significant value, we'd like to have it—even if it's a cheap paperback copy. Content is important.'

A used book dealer's stock is always changing. In October Motte & Bailey was offering a three-volume set of Gibbon's Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire for \$40; a copy of Sleeping Beauty and Other



(Above) Booksellers Gene Alloway, John Murphy, and Paul Hare of Motte & Bailey. (Right) Nancy Roberts serves up hot dogs and nostalgia at Sweet Memories.

Favorite Fairy Tales, the 1982 co-winner of the British Kate Greenaway Medal for outstanding children's book illustration, for \$18; and a rare history of the city of York for \$100. "You never know what you're going to get in a used bookstore," Alloway says. "Every time I go out looking, I see a book I've never seen before."

Motte & Bailey, Booksellers, 111 East Ann, 669-0451. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Boomer nostalgia at Sweet Memories

With grilled Spam and fluffernutter

ancy Roberts, single mother of five, had been looking for a business to call her own for about a year—about as long as Joe Veres had had his Sweet Memories ice cream parlor on the market. But even though Roberts lives near the store, is friends with Veres's former landlords at Maple Miller Plaza, Bob and Jane Maulbetsch, and even once worked at the Sweet Memories location back when it was the deli Lagniappe, she didn't hear the business was for sale until just before she was headed to Myrtle



Beach for a vacation: "I put in an offer. Then I spent two weeks lying on a beach thinking, 'What have I done? What have I done?'"

By the end of Roberts's vacation, she'd gotten over her buyer's remorse and was ready to have fun. She's since expanded the place into a sandwich shop and has turned Veres's rather stiff nostalgic ambience into a cheerful homage to midcentury kitsch. Veres had decorated the ice cream parlor with turn-of-the-century antiques hung with signs saying Do Not Touch and admonishing parents to watch their children. In contrast, Roberts's decor is funkily retro and casually accessible: chrome and Formica tables; a wall of old magazine ads; Roberts's personal collections of



ANN ARBOR

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turquoise and pink Melmac dishes, salt

and pepper shakers, bread boxes, and vin-

tage telephones; and a couple of big, com-

fy booths she found at a Big Boy auction

in Lansing. "It's stuff I had, stuff I liked,

and stuff I found on eBay," Roberts says.

"A lot of stuff I picked because it was the

Domino's, first as a secretary and finally

as director of international administration.

Newly divorced after several years at home raising her kids, she started working for a hot dog cart vendor who subsequent-

ly went out of business, giving her one of

the carts as severance pay. She placed that

cart and others in area Home Depots and

started looking for a local business so she

could spend more time near her kids. She

still operates two hot dog carts: one's in a

Lansing Home Depot, and she takes the

other to Michigan Stadium on football

cart awning over the order counter at

Sweet Memories, where in addition to

regular and Chicago-style hot dogs you

can get a wonderful selection of nostalgia

on white bread: fried egg sandwiches,

tuna melts, peanut butter and jelly, fluffer-

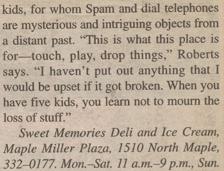
nutter (peanut butter and marshmallow

spread), and even grilled Spam. ("Go

Appropriately, there's a red hot dog

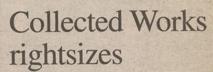
Saturdays.

right color, or because it just felt good." For Roberts, this is the latest of several forays into food service. She spent ten years working for Tom Monaghan at



Sweet Memories Deli and Ice Cream, Maple Miller Plaza, 1510 North Maple, 332-0177. Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun.

hoods. It's an even bigger hit with their



Irene Patalan aims to trade Main Street tourists for Farmers' Market regulars

n 1990 Irene Patalan and her husband, Rich Thompson, moved their Collected Works store from Liberty to Main Street. It was a big step up. "I felt like I was in grad school," Patalan remembers, laughing. "This was the real thing!" But after a decade of juggling parenting and seventy-five-hour workweeks-not to mention balancing the demands of downtown's tourist trade with the needs of their longtime local customers-Patalan and Thompson are ready for life back in the slow lane. In late October they moved their clothing and accessories boutique to a much smaller space in the Market Place building near Kerrytown.

'Main Street was fine for then, but I'm ready for a change," Patalan says. "I don't need to be on Main Street anymore. I've done that.'

Collected Works started out in 1977 in the lower-level space on Liberty where the Bead Gallery is now. Two years later Patalan and Thompson moved the store to the then somewhat ramshackle house across the street from Seva. "People remember that house fondly, and I do, too," Patalan says. "But it was the right thing to do, to move and be part of the renaissance of Main Street."

Main Street circa 1990, however, was a somewhat different animal from Main Street today. There were fewer restaurants and therefore a lot less tourist trade. Most stores were closed at night and on Sunday, so that a retailer could run a Main Street shop and still have a life. Over the years, though, an increasing number of shoppers from the Detroit suburbs have caused downtown retailers to extend their hours and change their inventory mix to appeal to browsers. "Main Street has a lot of tourists, but tourists are not my shoppers," Patalan says. "I know my store is lovely to look at, but it would be nice to close my door at six o'clock and have an evening."

Another motive for the move was that Thompson began traveling as a jewelry manufacturer's representative, and the store's back room, which he'd been using









Sweet Memories serves a wonderful selection of nostalgia on white bread tuna melts, fluffernutter, even grilled Spam. Washed down with fresh-squeezed lemonade or limeade, it's the most comfortingly homey menu Ann Arbor has seen since Drake's Sandwich Shop closed.

ahead and laugh . . . then TRY it! It's wonderful!" says the menu.) Washed down with fresh-squeezed lemonade or limeade, it's the most comfortingly homey menu Ann Arbor has seen since Drake's Sandwich Shop closed.

There are also more contemporary sandwiches like turkey and provolone and tarragon chicken salad from an old Lagniappe recipe, as well as almost fifty flavors of Stroh's ice cream and soft-serve yogurt, available by the cone and dish or in sundaes, shakes, malts, and banana splits. Roberts plans soups, chilis, and homemade corn bread for the winter and says she's thinking about doing prepared family dinners that customers could order in advance and then pick up on their way

Sweet Memories is a big hit with baby boomers looking to relive their child-



Irene Patalan of Collected Works models a hat at her new Market Place store.

as a workshop, became little more than an expensive storage area. "The entire back of the store was full of stuff we'd collected in twenty years of business," she says. 'I really don't need a giraffe that somebody painted for the window when I was at the house on Liberty in 1984!"

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With two of her three children out of the house, Patalan, feeling in need of a new "baby," set about finding a new location. It took her several weeks to notice that the former Animality space in the Market Place building was vacant, but once she spotted it, she couldn't stop thinking about it. She spent days on end sitting in her car outside the space, trying to get a feel for the area and watching people walk by. The clincher was when she noticed that the nearby Farmers' Market attracted many Ann Arborites she numbered as loyal Collected Works customers. "It felt like it was calling to me," she says. The space is beautiful. It's got ivy outside the windows and a tree with flowers around it. It feels fabulous!

The new location features a focused inventory of loosely constructed, naturalfiber women's clothing from brands like Blue Fish, Focus, and Papillon, many of them with intricate beadwork or exquisite hand-painted details, as well as jewelry, scarves, gloves, and what might be the town's best selection of women's hats. "We do a big hat business," Patalan says. "I even get calls from hospitals for hats for patients undergoing chemotherapy.

After twenty-three years in business, Patalan has a lot of memories—but she's not looking back. "I actually have my first Week's worth of sales written on a paper bag, but I'll probably throw it out. I don't need that stuff anymore," she says triumphantly. "This is a challenge, but I can be contained and beautiful-I can do

Collected Works, 303 Detroit, 995-4222. Probable hours: Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. (plus early Fri. evening), Sun. noon-5 p.m.

Sunflower Cafe will replace the Lonely Hearts Club

Further echoes of John Lennon

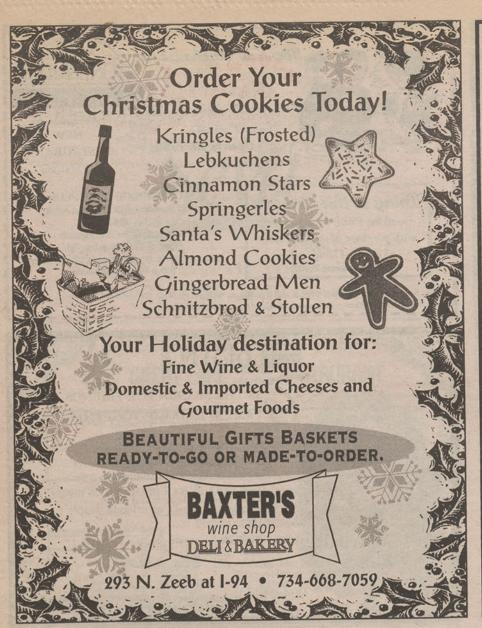
icholas Raftis and Robert Thibodeau are opening a vegetarian and macrobiotic restaurant called the Sunflower Cafe in what used to be the Beatles-themed Lonely Hearts Club on Washington. Interestingly, John Lennon converted Thibodeau to vegetarianism in the first place, back in the mid-1960s. "I met him on a trip to New York, and he yelled at me and said; 'Meat is stopping you from being spiritual and creative. Eat brown rice for ten days, and then your body will tell you the truth about what you're eating," Thibodeau says. "At the end of ten days I was starving for a steak, so I bought the best one I could afford. It tasted like blood and gristle. Ever since then-I was nineteen-I've never touched

Thibodeau went on to found Ferndale's Om Vegetarian Cafe with his then wife, Colleen Smiley, and now owns Mayflower Book Shop in Berkley. A self-described "predictive astrologer," Thibodeau met Raftis, an engineer, in 1973. Both Buddhists who study under Gelek Rinpoche at Ann Arbor's Jewel Heart Temple, they are also both firm believers in macrobiotics, a dietary practice believed to release healing energy through careful food balancing. Accordingly, the Sunflower Cafe will serve a largely vegetarian menu with an emphasis on fresh, unprocessed foods. "We're trying to integrate our spiritual philosophy and our work and home life into one big ball," Raftis says.









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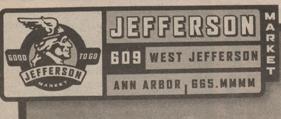
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CLOSED SUNDAYS

Thibodeau, who gives lectures on Buddhism, spiritual healing, and astrology, explains macrobiotics this way: "You can eat anything if you know what you ate before and what you're going to eat after. It's all about balance. Food is medicine, and food can facilitate your body healing itself." Eating too many tomatoes, he says, creates fear. Too much oil-or bad oil, or the wrong oil-can keep you stuck in the past. Buckwheat can give you sexual energy and keeps you warm in the winter. Daikon radish, he believes, lowers high blood pressure. "Macrobiotics isn't against eating something," he says. "It just depends on what you want to accomplish."

Thibodeau says he was converted to vegetarianism by John Lennon. "I met him on a trip to New York, and he yelled at me and said, 'Meat is stopping you from being spiritual and creative."

The Sunflower won't serve meat, but it will serve salmon, whitefish, and swordfish. The menu also includes stir-fries, nachos, macrobiotic enchiladas with rice and adzuki beans, sesame buckwheat noodles, tempeh burgers, seitan (wheat gluten), and a fascinating roster of whole wheat pizzas with toppings like shiitake mushrooms, almonds, kale, and walnuts. "I'm the best pizza maker that I know," says Thibodeau.

Raftis says they wanted people to get the feeling of sitting inside a sunflower, so they painted the space in two rich shades of yellow accented by sea-foam green. This particular sunflower has comfortable seating: tables of hundred-yearold barn wood and generously padded bench seating.

Thibodeau is known in the Detroit area for his predictions—he says he predicted the last California earthquake—but he won't comment directly about what the future holds for his new business venture. "As long as the world suffers and travails in attempting to give birth to a sweeter form of humanity, I'm always going to have a job," he says enigmatically. "I will never fail."

The Sunflower Cafe, 211 East Washington, 302–7701. Tues.—Fri. 11 a.m.—10 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 10 a.m.—10 p.m. Closed Mon.

Briefly Noted

In ancient Greek mythology, Demeter was the goddess of fertility, associated with both grains and motherhood. While searching for her daughter, Persephone, who was spirited to the underworld by Hades ostensibly with her father Zeus's

permission, Demeter accidentally ate someone's arm, threatened the world with famine, invented wheat, and turned some poor slob who laughed at her into a gecko.

In Ann Arbor, Demeter is a new eatery on the city's north side. Owner Karen Furuhjelm—whose family is Swedish, not Greek—bought the former Pasta to Go in the Plymouth Green shopping center after its franchisor went belly-up. Like its predecessor, Demeter serves pasta, but because Furuhjelm didn't think customers would want to eat Italian more than once a week, she's also starting to add pierogi, stir-fries, stews, and rice-based dishes for the winter. "It's nice to have a menu that follows the seasons," she says, "because people's appetites change with the weather."

This is the first foray into the restaurant business for Furuhjelm, who grew up in Detroit but then "got stuck in New England" when her father got a new job while she was in her teens. In 1996, divorced and struggling to raise a handicapped daughter, Elinor, Furuhjelm headed back to the Midwest to find a business for herself and services for Elinor. "I wanted a business of my own so that when I had a crisis with my daughter, I could cope with it," Furuhjelm explains, "and there just isn't the employment opportunity in New Hampshire that there is here."

Elinor, now seventeen, and Furuhjelm's younger daughter, Elizabeth, thirteen, both help out at the store, where there have been few changes to Pasta to Go's crisp black-and-white-tiled decor. "There was a lot of basic cleaning, repairing, and organizing to do," she says. "I've brought in some plants and hung some curtains. I have a box of pictures, and, God willing, I'll have time one day to put them up."

Known among family and friends as a virtuoso in the kitchen, Furuhjelm declares that there isn't anything she doesn't like to cook. "T've done everything from steamers and lobsters to boeuf bourgignon, coq au vin, and sushi," she says. Don't look for raw fish at Demeter anytime soon, however. "Ann Arbor has enough sushi places," she says. "I mean, I can even get it at Kroger now!"

That's not all she can get at Kroger. "I know I'm back home," she says, "because I can get Vernors in the store again."

Demeter, 3580 Plymouth Road, Plymouth Green shopping center, 669– 9307. Probable winter hours: Mon.–Fri. 11 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. & Sun. noon–7 p.m.

-

When Debbie Freitag bought Sweet Lorraine's last April, she had six months in which to decide whether to keep the name and menu intact and pay former owner Lorraine Platman a sort of licensing fee, or to rename the restaurant and retool the menu. It looked like a tough decision at first, but general manager Mark Ferguson says that when the restaurant's new specials began outselling the standard menu items, the choice became obvious. Accordingly, Sweet Lorraine's became Cafe 303... One Flight Down in early October.

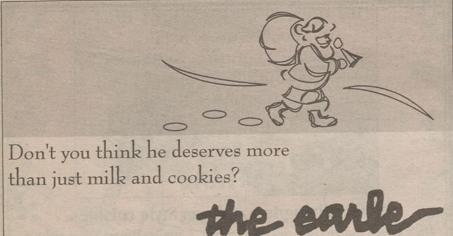
Freitag has agreed not to use Platman's











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recipes, but the new menu does feature her own versions of some of Sweet Lorraine's better-selling favorites like the pecan chicken and the pear salad. Mostly, though, it focuses on new items developed by chef Jesse Fellows: pan-seared duck breast, milk-braised pork loin, and filet mignon with a rosemary and port demiglace. Vegetarian entrees remain well represented, with a roasted vegetable napoleon, braised Vidalia onions stuffed with wild mushrooms, and portobello ravioli sauced with sherried cream. Pastry chef Laura Fribley turns out a rotating menu of desserts, including carrot cake, crème brûlée, lemon mousse, and apple brown Betty.

The decor remains unchanged—by customer request. "There's not one drop of paint different in here," Ferguson avows. "We're not out to erase Lorraine's memory. We're just looking to improve what we already have."

Ferguson says Freitag is "not in a position" to complete her original plans to install an outdoor music stage and heated outdoor seating, but the restaurant does offer entertainment inside Thursday through Saturday, with the emphasis on jazz. Ferguson says he also hopes to increase carryout business. "People used to like home cooking in a restaurant," he says, "but now they seem to want restaurant food in their home." Cafe 303 will keep prepackaged, prepared entrees in a cooler, ready for customers to reheat at

Cafe 303 . . . One Flight Down, 303 Detroit, 665-0700. Daily 11 a.m.-10 p.m. (Fri. & Sat. till 11 p.m.).

202020

Jeff More opened Porter's Premium Popcorn at the urging of a very good friend: his golden retriever.

"This is a dog who loves popcorn, who will do anything for popcorn," More explains. "Clearly, he needed a popcorn store. In fact, he sort of commanded me."

More and his brother, Ray, who also own Ashley's on South State, opened their Nickels Arcade boutique in early October and named it in honor of Jeff's popcorncraving canine. The tiny yellow-walled store sells movie-style popcorn as well as fourteen gourmet flavors ranging from caramel macadamia nut crunch and amaretto to blue raspberry, barbecue, and piña colada, all popped on the premises in coconut oil and moistened with real butter. Even from several stores away, the aroma is insistent and irresistible. "The best is the chocolate-glazed popcorn," More says. "It makes the arcade smell like someone just baked brownies."

Prices start at \$2.49 for a small, singlesize serving-"One person can munch that way too fast," More laughs-to \$3.49 for a large (More calls it "regular") portion. You can also get movie popcorn by the tub or a selection of gourmet flavors in gift tins. Soon More will add trail mix and other addictive snacks.

Doggie demands notwithstanding, this isn't More's first foray into popcorn. While at Trinity College in Connecticut, he noticed a popular local pub had a kitchen but didn't serve food. More asked whether he could install a popcorn machine, and the owner agreed-so long as the corn was served extra salty to keep the beer flowing. "I put myself through college on popcorn," More says. "It beat a work-study program.'

Porter's Premium Popcorn, 10 Nickels Arcade, 222-5220. Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-8 p.m., Sun. noon-6 p.m.

If your decor just wouldn't be complete without an eight-foot statue of the Egyptian cat goddess Bastet, then Ancient Treasure is the store for you. James Lathan and Ronald Oswald specialize in reproductions of Victorian, Asian, and Egyptian art, all hand sculpted and painted by Oswald, whose work has appeared in movies like The Mummy and Bram Stoker's Dracula. "These are museum quality, made identical to the things that come out of the tombs of the great pharaohs," declares Lathan.

Lathan was selling candles and oil lamps at the Gibraltar Trade Center when he met Oswald, whose work ranges from busts of Nefertiti and King Tut to opulent water fountains. Feeling that the Trade Center was a bit too downscale for Oswald's inventory (prices range from \$10 to \$1,500), the two decided to go in together on a store in Ann Arbor's Nickels Arcade. As a result, the inventory of the shop is eclectic, commingling Egyptian statues, scented candles, oil lamps, and even a garden gnome or two-"something for everybody," Lathan declares.

Lathan says the shop is dedicated to his mother, sister, and brother, who were killed in a car accident just after Christmas in 1999. "I kind of did this as a memorial to my mother," he says. "I hope the business will be a success because of her."

Ancient Treasure, 14 Nickels Arcade, 302-7081. Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

tatata

Keith Lee has been working at the former New York Carpet World on Washtenaw for almost twenty-eight years. He's seen the chain sold first to Shaw Industries and then to the Georgia-based Maxim Group, which changed the name to Flooring America last year. By the time Maxim declared bankruptcy and closed its stores this summer, Lee figured he'd been there long enough to run the place himself, so he and a group of partners bought the Washtenaw Avenue location and named it Carpet World & Floors.

Lee and his partners have spiffed the store up a bit, but the inventory remains much the same as it has over the past decade: carpet, area rugs, ceramic tile, and wood and laminate flooring. Lee says despite the expansion into other flooring products in recent years, he still sells more carpet than anything else. The most popular weave is saxony, a low-pile carpet that resists showing footprints.

After twenty-eight years, Lee has pretty much seen it all when it comes to carpet. In fact, he's even seen shag come in, go out, and come back in again. He sells a new version called California Berber. (Last month we reported that Fashion Floors of Ann Arbor, on Jackson Road, is selling yet another revival of shag-a twisted-fiber carpet called frieze.)

Carpet World & Floors, 4559 Washtenaw, 973-7241. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sun. noon-5 p.m.

Sasasa

For the last several years Old Navy's maddeningly persistent TV ads have been captivating Ann Arborites, who then have had to travel to suburban Detroit to get some of that comfy, modestly priced clothing. That burden was lifted this November, when Old Navy finally came to Ann Arbor with a new store at Arborland next to Borders. The store's inventory, designed in house, includes jeans, khakis, Old Navy T-shirts, and sweats and sleepwear for men, women, and children. There's also a small selection of sturdy, attractively priced babywear.

n

The chain, which is owned by the Gap, got its start under the name Gap Warehouse in 1993. A year later, after management rejected such alternative names as Monorail, EasyUp, and Forklift, it became Old Navy. In just seven years the chain has grown to over 500 stores.

By the way, if you've ever wondered who the lady with the big glasses is in the Old Navy TV spots, it's fashion columnist Carrie Donovan, who's written for the New York Times, Vogue, and Harper's Bazaar. In the last few commercials Donovan has been supplanted by Lisa Ling, svelte cohost of ABC's The Viewmaybe because Ling looks a good deal better in Old Navy cargo pants.

Old Navy, Arborland, 3533 Washtenaw, 677-3269. Mon.-Sat. 9:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Closings

A reader wrote to say that not only had Luminosity, the art gallery-cum-tea shop in Nickels Arcade, closed, the owner, Rebecca Berman, was still holding \$350 of his money. He and his wife had ordered a couple of small end tables and had paid by check, but when the promised furniture never arrived, they went to the store and found it vacant. "A neighboring store owner took our names and promised to forward them to Rebecca, but we never heard anything from her," he says. "We learned a lesson, but the education was expensive." A staffer at Wilson White Realty, which manages the Arcade, couldn't provide any further information about the closing or Berman's whereabouts but said that the rent had gone unpaid for several months before Luminosity's demise.

Follow-Up

Five years ago this month, the Changes column featured ten new businesses. Only four of them are still open, including Einstein Bros. Bagels on State and two Briarwood clothiers, Aldo and Abercrombie & Fitch. Regrets Only, Nancy Chenevey's stationery store, not only is still open, it's many times the size of its original location. In five years the little shop has moved and expanded almost as many times, landing most recently on Main

Regrets Only not only is still open, in five years it's moved and expanded almost as many times, landing most recently on Main Street.

Main Street News, Kay Marsh's downtown periodicals shop, closed several years ago, as did George Fotiadis and Adi Demiri's dineresque version of the Kerrytown Grille (the elegantly refined Yamato occupies its space now). The others who didn't make it to their five-year anniversaries are the Coffee Beanery in the Briarwood center court; Church Street consignment clothing shop Rags from the Attic; the Carthage Cafe in the Plymouth Green shopping center; and the last location, on Detroit Street, of Connie Bassil's Art Deco Design Studio.

December 1995 survival rate: 40 per-

One year ago this month, Marketplace Changes reported the opening of nine new businesses. Two of them have since closed: SKR Dubplate Pressure, specializing in dance music on Liberty Street, and Luminosity in the Nickels Arcade (see Closings above).

The similarly named Ann Arbor Marble and Ceramic Tile, on South Industrial, and Ann Arbor Tile & Marble Center, on Dino Drive, are both still open, with the former planning a major expansion this month. Also still open: Papa Chulo's, in the former Arriba space on South Fourth Avenue, and Starbucks Coffee, on Liberty at State. Don Jorgenson's second Burro location ended up cannibalizing his original spot on William-the William Street store is closed, but the new one, in the Plymouth Green shopping center, is thriving.

The other first-year anniversary celebrants are Maple Miller Meats, in Maple Miller Plaza, and upscale fruit vendors Harry and David, at Briarwood.

December 1999 survival rate: 78 per-

Got a retail or restaurant change? Leave voice mail at 769-3175, ext. 364, or send E-mail to lauramcr@earthlink.net.

-Laura McReynolds







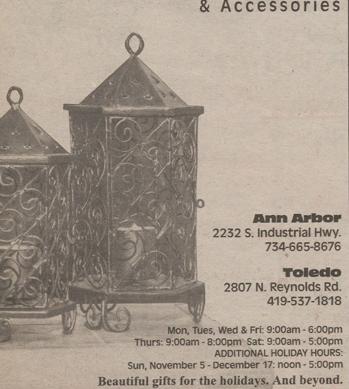
PERSONALS



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Zn=Letters B=Black LTR=Long Term Relationship C=Christian M=Male D=Divorced ND=Nondrinker F=Female NS=Nonsmoker G=Gav

T=Phone Calls

H=Hispanic H/WP=Height & Weight Proportionate

S=Single ISO=In Search Of

J=Jewish

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Every Friday at 8:35 a.m. on Kool 107 FM Listen for the Personals Ads of the Week from Kool 107's Lucy Ann Lance and the Ann Arbor Observer's Jackie O'Callaghan.

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Ann Arbor Observer

Women Seeking Men

PERSONAL CALL (900) 370-2072 18 or older. Touch-Tone phone. \$1.95/min.

SWF, 45, petite, kindhearted, enjoys the arts, cooking, long walks, and good conversation. Looking for a SM who also longs for a special relationship. \$\pi\$1158\nneq 1

Petite, slim, attractive, SWF, 50, kind, and generous. My passions are Buddhist phi-losophy, gardening, tai chi, eclectic music. ISO kind and loving SM who has touched his own insanity, lived through it, and is now ready to share romance and tantric

Warm and sensual, this attractive, fit, DWPF seeks WPM, 50ish, high IQ and EQ who delights in dancing, hugging, travel, oceans, and homemade cookies.

SWF, 35, 5'10", 140 lbs., NS, enjoys sports, travel, shopping, movies, long walks, and quality family time. ISO good-looking, mature, stable man who wants to live, laugh, and love. \$\pi 2688 \simes 100 \text{ for the control of the

Look no further. Slim, pretty, personable, intelligent, SWPF seeks NS, educated, kind, SWPM, 38–52, for friendship, fun, walks, talks, photography, dogs, plays concerts, travel . . . maybe more. \$\pi\$1791\$ Southern widow, no dependents, owns home. Blue eyes, brown hair, 5'4", 125 lbs. If this is someone you would like to know, drop me a line. Have a beautiful day! \$\pi 2687 \mathcal{E}_2\$

Biracial DW, 36, loves reading, cooking, motorcycles, travel, dogs. ISO D/SWM for friendship, more if the chemistry is right. Bring your own helmet. #2686/#2

Femme approchante à la cinquantaine, francophone, mère, professeur cherche un compagnon pour discuter, dîner, films, voyages, et surtout le français. Intéressé?

DWPF, 51, 5'5", slender, creative, intelligent, sensual, attractive, well educated. Enjoys art, music, cinema, psychology, ethnic dining. ISO NS, DWPM, 47+, degreed, who longs for intimacy, laughter, Escape the ordinary, SWPF with nerve and verve seeks SPM who can appreciate an engaging, entertaining F who is bright, fuller figured, attractive, happy, secure witty, Age/race open. Want a secure M who is funny to enjoy adventures. ₹2682₺

The man I want must be very bright, a broad thinker who believes in interpers al connectedness and is spiritual rather than religious. He must be emotionally mature and willing to commit to a monog-amous relationship with someone active who has life experience and wants another person to care about. 50+ only. ₹2681₺

Cosmopolitan, bookish single mom, 33, seeks similar for fun, friendship, and mutual moral support. I like art, spirituality, coffee, and joy. ₹2573 ≠ 2573 + 2

Charming Russian lady, 54, 5'2", 130 lbs., former physician hoping to meet gentleman for love and marriage. ☎2570₺

SWF likes sports, shopping, traveling, dinner and loves animals, children, and fun. A real down-to-earth girl ISO a good man looking for a LTR. ₹2568∠5

SBPF, 42, lawyer pursuing PhD, appreciates both urban life and the outdoors. Loves jazz and classical music, traveling, and intellectual discussion. ISO PM with

Woman in search of a man. ☎2564₺

Artistic, voluptuous, gorgeous, sweet, DWF, 33, one child, looking for conscious, creative, caring, NS, reader who considered voting for Nader, for dancing, laughter, LTR, and marriage. Letter with photo, please. 2566

SF, 40, who enjoys concerts, clubs, movies, and traveling. I am fun and outgoing. Seeking SM, 25–50, who shares the same persona and interests. #2574

Brighten my days, warm my nights. 5'6", educated, blue-eyed blonde seeks intelligent, gentle man, 53-65, with an active ifestyle. ☎2562₺

Ambitious, creative, and fun, SWF, 40, seeks snow playmate. Must be able to make tall snow angels, ski down mountain slopes, and drink hot chocolate after skating. Extra points if you look good in a tux!

Men Seeking Women

PERSONAL CALL (900) 370-2072

18 or older. Touch-Tone phone. \$1.95/min. DWM, 49, PhD, 5'9", 150 lbs. Researcher and farmer in environment, ecology, agriculture. ISO woman scientist to share ru-ral life, foreign travels, romance. #1235 One-woman-man type of guy seeks youthful, trim, SWF. I'm tall, trim, 39, love kids, am successful, uncannily funny

SWM, fit, slim, intelligent, educated, honest, accommodating. Interests: books, movies, music, travel. ISO similar SWF, intelligent, compatible, attractive, late 30s-early 50s. ☎1012₺

Romantic, humorous, DWM, 53, seeks NS, friends first, marriage partner. Interests: travel, walking, nature, food, dancing, chocolate. ☎1080₺

Great guy seeks great gal. SWM, 33, 6'2", artist into film, Tom Waits, history, archiartist into film, form waits, instory, architecture, slow dancing, fun, wine, kissing. ISO full-figured, intellectual SF, 24–38, energetic, fun loving. Kissers with inquiring minds sought. #2684#2



PERSONALS

Cozy fires, candlelit dinners, long walks, and good conversations await! Secure and happy SWM desires to meet an active SWF, 30+, for friendship plus. \$\pi 2439 \& \pi\$

Bright, bearded, boyish WP, 53, craves culture, cuisine, chats, cats, cuddling, foreign films, and forays. ISO F, 35+, for LTR. #1985/=

Insightful, impassioned, intuitive, incandescent, wise, warm, wonderful, witty, and spiritual SP man ISO romantic, energetic, confident, joyful woman. ≈2685 €

Curious, handsome, passionate, **DWM**, 50, 5'10", no dependents, well traveled, financially secure. ISO unique woman to share a wonderful life, Xmas! \$\pi 6885 \mu\$

Hugh Grant seeks Julia Roberts to do our own version of Notting Hill. I'm a Brit, you may or may not be American. We're both hopeless romantics. SWPM, 38, easygoing and well traveled. Recently touched down in AA and eager to discover. ISO SF, mid-twenties to late thirties, for late night dinners, jazz, classical and ambient music, arts, sorting out the world's problems, and generally chilling out together. \$\pi 2561 \neq \text{1.5}

Hermit Q-Builder with 3.4 Katz, some faults, seeks W who loves billiards, can saw wood, talk philosophy. No other parameters. 2309€5

Warm, thoughtful, spiritual, educated, emotionally aware, creative, SWM, 46, 5'11", fit, can be firm or tender, sweetheart, PhD, enjoys cuddling, personal growth, exercise, reading, improvisation, dance (smooth, rhythm) woodworking. dance (smooth, rhythm), woodworking, concerts, music (dance, blues, classical), seeks similar, fit, artistic, educated SF, 35–40, for LTR, dance, growth, family.

SWM, 40, tall, attractive, enthusiastic, honest, liberal, unencumbered, musician seeks fun-loving woman, 35-45, for friends and more. \$\pi 2683\$ ≠

PM, Swedish descent, nice abs, ISO healthy, fit, PF, 35–45, (nurse or ?) with an understanding of shift work (24/7). Question 2, 111 in the cast angular Please tions? I'll give you honest answers. Please respond. ₹2569₺

SWPM, 39, 6', 190 lbs., fit, warm, easygoing, good sense of humor, good at fixing things, work, not good at cooking, decorating. Seeks SWPF for LTR.

SM, 55, NS, widowed, exploring dating and new relationships. My pursuits include biking, walking, sailing, cooking, x-country skiing, travel, working, and yoga. Looking for SF interested in sharing experiences and enjoying life. LTR an eventual Possibility. \$\pi 2571 \nneq 1.

I am a tall, young-looking gentleman around 50 . . . yet home alone. I have short blond hair, bright hazel eyes, high ethics, low cholesterol. I'm looking for a charming, nicely shaped, blonde, SWPF to share wit and warmth. If spontaneous good times interest you, please call to chat. times interest you, please call to chat.

Places importance on making a difference, writing, ideas, and living simply. SWM, 57, likes sharing the goodness and craziness of each day. ISO pretty, open-minded bright friend. #22449/£2

SWPM, 70s, 5'10", 210 lbs., P/T practice from home office, financially secure, generous, shy, a homebody, country estate in Ann Arbor area. Seeks pretty, petite, shapely, SWPF for quality time. Nurses a plus. If sending a letter, please include photo. \$2546 \$25

DWPM wants to meet widow or woman who is serious about success in a relation-ship. In 30s or 40s. Children welcome.

Older DWPM cultured doctor ISO LTR with talented younger PF who values ma-turity, stability, experience, character versus youth. Conservative former liberal.

ENFP, DWPM, 51, excellent condition. Wants to meet attractive INFP, ENFP, or ENFJ woman (Myers-Briggs), 40s (?).

Mature, charming, WPM, 40+, 5'10", seeks sensitive, fit F, 29-39, for passionate LTR, romance, caring, adventure, cuddles, music, pets, and family. \$\pi 2541 \nn \text{}

Women Seeking Women

PERSONAL CALL (900) 370–2072 18 or older. Touch-Tone phone. \$1.95/min.

Men Seeking Men

PERSONAL CALL (900) 370-2072 18 or older. Touch-Tone phone. \$1.95/min.

General Personals

FAKE AD CONTEST

Can you find the fake display ad in this issue of the Observer? If you can, you could win a \$25 gift certificate from one of our advertisers. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, December 11. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: Fake Ad, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, AA 48104. Fax: 769-3375; E-mail: penny@aaobserver. com (include address and phone number).

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Christmas Party, 12/2; General Meeting
& Dance, 12/14; Night Out on the Town,
12/15; Social Action Meeting, 12/19 at
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calendar, including sign-up procedures. calendar, including sign-up procedures, consult the Club Hotline at (734) 761–3419 or www.a2skiclub.org.

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To respond to a Personals ad or browse Personals by phone call 1.900.370.2072

(\$1.95/minute)

* First four lines are free for singles seeking relationships. \$7.00 each additional line. Refer to form and guidelines on page 133.



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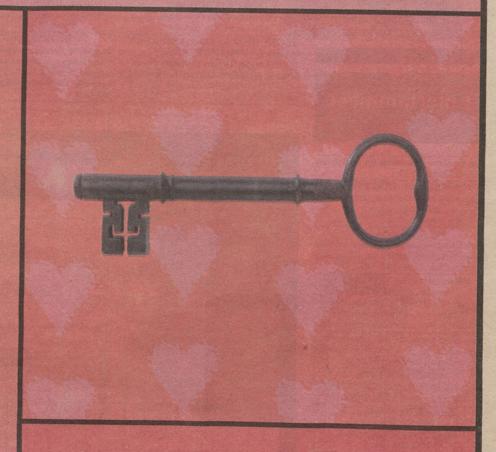
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Ann Arbor Observer



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Saline, MI 48176

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Entertainment

The Classifieds deadline for the January issue is December 11.

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The Classifieds deadline for the January

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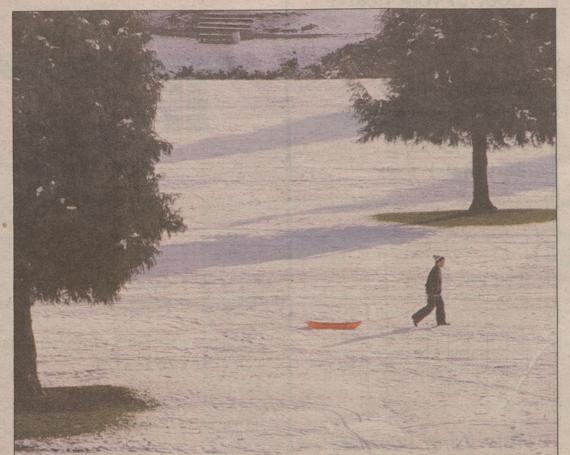
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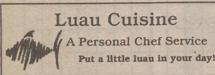
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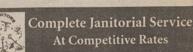
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Ann Arbor Observer

December 2000

Volume 8 Number 7



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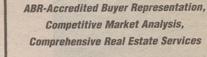
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SPECTACULAR NATURE'S PARADISE—Private, rolling, wooded 6.3 acres. State park preserve adjacent. Well built 2700 sq. ft. + 4 bedroom ranch. Generous floor plan features 2 family rooms, fireplace, game room, hot tub, and in ground heated pool. \$299,000.

PATRICIA KONIGANA 2000.

PATRICIA KORICAN 1-877-233-9300 code 1815/741-4595 (12-AY)



STONEBRIDGE—Open floor plan. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, 2 year old colonial with pond view. Great room with fireplace, luxury master suite with two walk-in closets, Whirlpool tub, separate shower, Ann Arbor schools, Big cul-de-sac lot. \$359,500.

DAVE DEAN 669-0243/216-7780 www.thedeanteam.com (17-OA)



STONEBRIDGE—Saline Schools. New 2641 sq. ft. contemporary on 14th fairway. Great room w/cathedral ceilings, fireplace, 1th floor master and study, granite island kitchen. \$419,900. DAVE DEAN 669-0243/216-7780. www.thedeanteam.com (46-SA)



MAGNIFICENT CUSTOM BUILT TRAN-SITIONAL—This 1.5 story all brick home features 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 3640 sq. ft. with an open floor plan inviting you to enjoy a very private setting on 4 acres. First floor master suite, has walk-in closet, spa tub and double showers with 14' ceilings. The 2nd floor includes 3 bedrooms including a guest suite with bath. \$880,000.

LARRY ZAHN 424-1710/669-0382 lrzahn@concentric.net (85-OA)



WILDLIFE RETREAT—privacy and seclusion at its best! Four bedroom colonial, spacious and generously designed. Entertaining pleasures include in ground pool, hot tub, gazebo and much more. Delightfully landscaped and manicured yard. \$329,000. PATRICIA KORICAN, 1-877-233-9300 code 1875/741-4595 (12-LA)

On the Cover: Exceptional 1998
Showcase home. Picture-perfect setting with private 2-acre pond. Features include Brazilian cherry flooring, vaulted ceilings, granite kitchen counters, and French slider to large deck overlooking the woods. Also, 3-car garage and finished lower-level walkout to large patio. Custom built by Keith Bowles. (734) 216–5914.
RE/MAX Community Associates.
Cover photo by J. Adrian Wylie.

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HEATHERWOOD CONDOMINIUM Terrific first floor "Charlevoix" model – the largest available. Open floor plan with 2 bedrooms, plus study/sun-room and 2 full baths. Large master bedroom suite. End unit with southern exposure, backs to treeline. \$156,900. Call Martin Bouma, (734) 761-3060.

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GEDDES LAKE CONDO! Spacious, bright, and airy unit has 1,515 sq. ft. with 3 bedrooms and 2.5 baths. Features include a large, open master bedroom suite, new Bosch dishwasher, Hunter Douglas blinds, new doorwall and second floor windows. \$134,900. Call Martin Bouma, (734) 761–3060.

CLASSIC WEST SIDE Ann Arbor ranch with 3 bedrooms and 1.5 baths, 2.5 car attached garage. Family room has a fireplace and sliding doors leading to the fenced backyard. New furnace and windows. \$179,900. Call Martin Bouma, (734) 761-3060.

BEAUTIFUL WEBSTER TOWNSHIP. Spacious country colonial with 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Mature yard with perennial gardens and inground pool, just under 1 acre. Family room with fireplace, first floor laundry and bedroom. \$249,900. Call Martin Bouma, (734) 761–3060.

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SPECTACULAR CRAFTSMAN-STYLE HOME located on a beautiful .8-acre lot in quaint Dixboro. Built in 1927, this marvelously maintained home features beautiful woodwork and hardwood floors on both levels. Three bedrooms plus 2 studies, 2 full baths, and 2 fireplaces. \$349,900.Call Martin Bouma, (734) 761–3060.

CUTE NORTHSIDE RANCH located on a quiet cul-de-sac. Private wooded backyard with terraced gardens. Three bedrooms, 1 bath, and a fully finished basement. Hardwood floors. Completely remodeled kitchen and bathroom. \$149,900. Call Martin Bouma, (734) 761–3060.

PRISTINE BILEVEL in Pittsfield Township. Contemporary flair with an open floor plan and cathedral ceilings on the entire main level. Three bedrooms, plus a study and 2.5 baths. Features crown molding, a walkout lower level, and a large custom deck backing to trees. Ann Arbor schools. \$199,900. Call Martin Bouma, (734) 761–3060.

SALINE 2-STORY contemporary located in popular Northview sub. Three bedrooms, plus study and 3.5 baths. 1,872 sq. ft. plus an additional 1,000 in the professionally finished basement, which includes a family room, playroom, bath, and bar. Deck off dining area. \$259,900. Call Martin Bouma, (734) 761–3060.

PRIVATE AND QUIET Scio Twp. home located on a treed, 2.5-acre lot. Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths, vaulted family room with fireplace. Only 5 years old. Basement with daylight windows. Dexter schools, Ann Arbor mailing. \$319,900. Call Martin Bouma, (734) 761–3060.



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TOWSLEY FARMS! Everything is top of the line in this all brick, Landau built home with over 7000 sq. ft. of finished living area. Too many special touches/features to list. \$1,202,500. For details call ROGER HIGGINS 473-0998 or 662-8600 at Real Estate One. (TO-208114)



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ANN ARBOR

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WONDERFUL FAMILY HOME! Two-story colonial with 3 bedrooms and 2½ baths located in an excellent neighborhood. Full, finished basement with a study/4th bedroom and a full bath. Family room with fireplace. Many recent updates. Ann Arbor schools. \$178,900. MARTIN BOUMA, (734) 761–3060 at Keller Williams Realty.

CLASSIC WESTSIDE ANN ARBOR ranch with 3 bedrooms, 1½ baths, 2½-car attached garage. Family room has a fireplace and sliding doors leading to the fenced backyard. New furnace and windows. \$179,900. MARTIN BOUMA, (734) 761–3060 at Keller Williams Realty.

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NEW LISTING in N.E. Ann Arbor. Spacious 4-year-old 2-story on quiet court. If comfort is your goal, this is your house. Four bedrooms, 2½ baths, family room, study, oak kitchen with lots of space all for \$308,000. LENORE LAMSA, 663–6221 or 662–8600 at Real Estate One.

GORGEOUS 1930s WESTSIDE CHARMER! Hardwood floors and woodwork throughout. 1,534 sq. ft. of living space with 3 bedrooms, 2 remodeled baths, and kitchen. Fireplace, covered front porch, partially finished basement, deck, and garage. Many charming features! \$239,900. MARTIN BOUMA, (734) 761–3060 at Keller Williams Realty.

BEAUTIFUL WEBSTER TOWN-SHIP. Spacious country colonial with 4 bedrooms, 3½ baths. Mature yard with perennial gardens and inground pool, just under 1 acre. Family room with fireplace, first-floor laundry, and bedroom. \$249,900. MARTIN BOUMA, (734) 761-3060 at Keller Williams Realty.

PRIVATE AND QUIET Scio Twp. home. Located on a treed, 2½-acre lot. Four bedrooms, 2½ baths, vaulted family room with fireplace, only 5 years old. Basement with daylight windows. Dexter schools, Ann Arbor address. \$319,900. MARTIN BOUMA, (734) 761–3060 at Keller Williams Realty.

CUSTOM-BUILT BRIAR HILL. Quality and elegance, beautiful backyard with privacy. Court location, 3-car garage, 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths. Two-story entry, hardwood floors, daylight windows in basement. Luxury master suite. \$415,000. NANCY HARRISON, (734) 320–2211 or 662–8600 at Real Estate One. (KN–207609)

TOWSLEY FARMS—Everything is top-of-the-line in this all-brick, Landau-built home with over 7,000 sq. ft. of finished living space. Too many special touches and features to list. \$1,202,500. ROGER HIGGINS, 473–0998 or 662–8600 at Real Estate One.

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BRICK TUDOR with traditional floor plan, just completed. Immediate occupancy on this 3,050-sq.-ft. home in the heart of the Stonebridge golfing community. Beautiful master suite, maple kitchen with island, 3-car attached garage. \$439,000. JOHN ROMAGNOLI, 662–8600 at Real Estate One.

LOVELY, IMMACULATELY cared for home well located in Ann Arbor with easy access in and out of town! Four-bedroom, 2½-bath floorplan. Exquisite yard, master suite with attached full bath. Just \$243,000. Move in before Christmas. CHRIS O'NEILL, (734) 358-5459 OR 662-8600 at Real Estate One. (SC-207972)

CHARMING LANSDOWNE colonial with 4–5 bedrooms, 2½ baths, formal dining and living rooms, family room with fireplace, plus bonus room. Large fenced lot on cul-de-sac. \$294,900. TOM/SUE/TAMMY DÉFORD, 662–8600 at Real Estate One. (DU–207101)

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GEDDES LAKE CONDO! Spacious, bright, and airy unit has 1,515 sq. ft. with 3 bedrooms and 2½ baths. Features include a large, open master-bedroom suite, new Bosch dishwasher, Hunter Douglas blinds, new doorwall and second-floor windows. \$134,900. MARTIN BOUMA, (734) 761–3060 at Keller Williams Realty.

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LOCH ALPINE custom Cape Cod with cedar siding. Located on a large land-scaped lot. Large eat-in kitchen with study area. 2,013 square feet with 4 bedrooms and 2½ baths. Wonderful screened porch overlooks private treed backyard. \$269,900. MARTIN BOUMA, (734) 761–3060 at Keller Williams Realty.

SPECTACULAR CRAFTSMAN-STYLE HOME located on a beautiful .8acre lot in quaint Dixboro. Built in 1927, this marvelously maintained home features beautiful woodwork and hardwood floors on both levels. Three bedrooms plus 2 studies, 2 full baths, and 2 fireplaces. \$349,900. MARTIN BOUMA, (734) 761–3060 at Keller Williams Realty.

SALINE 2-STORY contemporary located in popular Northview sub. Three bedrooms, plus study and 3½ baths. 1,872 sq. ft. plus an additional 1,000 in the professionally finished basement, which includes a family room, playroom, bath, and bar. Deck off dining area. \$259,900. MARTIN BOUMA, (734) 761–3060 at Keller Williams Realty.

WONDERFUL COUNTRY RETREAT. Enjoy the sunsets from the screened porch and adjacent deck of this 2,495-sq.-ft., 3-bedroom, 2½-bath home. Located on 3 landscaped acres with perennial gardens in Lima Twp. Large country kitchen with cupboards galore. Huge first-floor study with built-in bookshelves. \$262,900. MARTIN BOUMA, (734) 761-3060 at Keller Williams Realty.

MAINTENANCE-FREE custom-built ranch in Scio Twp. 2,040 sq. ft. with 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, and hardwood floors. Luxurious master-bedroom suite with huge walk-in closet. Enjoy the wooded backyard from the screened porch. \$298,900. MARTIN BOUMA, (734) 761–3060 at Keller Williams Realty.

LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL home? Call to tour this 4-year-old home with first-floor study, finished basement. Saline schools and more. TONYA IRE-LAND, 662–8600 at Real Estate One.

LOOKING FOR COUNTRY LIVING with city convenience? You've just found it! Three-bedroom colonial on large, private wooded lot minutes to everything. Pride of ownership shows here. Priced well at \$202,500. SUZANNE BETZ, 973–6994 or 662–8600 at Real Estate One. (RU–205707)

4.5 ACRES of peaceful country living with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, French door to family room. 30 x 48 barn plus 4-car garage. Priced \$10,000 below appraisal at \$219,000. SUZANNE BETZ, 973–6994 or 662–8600 at Real Estate One. (MT–200275)

POLE BARN AND RANCH on 7 partially wooded acres in-Pittsfield Twp. Perfect for contractors or car collectors. Large home (2,080 sq. ft.) has open floorplan that's great for entertaining. Includes 3-bedrooms, 1½ baths. Barn (32 x 56) has concrete floor. \$425,000. ERIC ERICK-SEN, 662–8600 at Real Estate One.

1,280-SQ.-FT. RANCH built in 1994 on 5-acre parcel with attached 3-bay garage, \$150,000. GARRETT DOWKER, (734) 817-0486 or 662-8600 at Real Estate One. (SH-208104)

CUSTOM-DESIGNED 4-bedroom, 3½-bath home in Timber Ridge on 1.3 acres. Scenic view from sunroom is of rolling hills and woods. Very peaceful. Come see lovely ceiling, trim, molding, and raised panel wainscoting. Saline schools. \$419,000. BARBARA GAINES, (800) 923–3245 or 662–8600 at Real Estate One.

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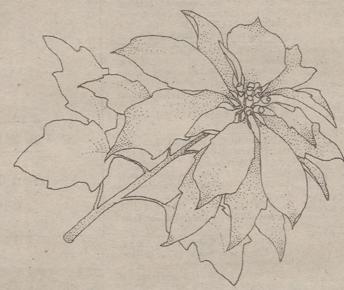
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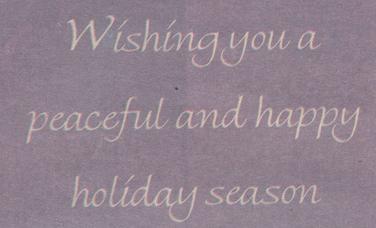


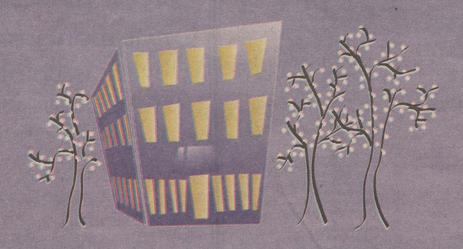
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BACK PAGE



by Sally Bjork

A change in the skyline In nineteen twenty-nine Spurred grand reviews In the Daily News.

To enter this month's contest, use the riddle and photo at right to find the spot shown, and send your entry to the address at the bottom of the page.

Yes, you guessed it-Zingerman's Delicatessen on the corner of Detroit and Kingsley streets was our I Spy for November. Many of you seemed unhappy at the lack of challenge in identifying those decorative bricks above the second-story



windows. Ann Arbor's most famous deli has been a neighborhood stronghold since 1902, when Rocco Desderide built it to house his corner grocery store. The Diroff family bought the store in

1921 and continued the business for nearly sixty years. Converted to a deli by Kerrytown founder Art Carpenter, it was soon taken over by Paul Saginaw and Ari



Weinzweig of Zingerman's, who've grown the business from a neighborhood deli to a nationally renowned specialty store with a special way of doing business.

Fifteen readers entered

November's I Spy contest. A few, like winner Erin Dowding of Ann Arbor. were surprised to learn that Zingerman's makes some of its own cheeses (a stroll on the Kingsley sidewalk may offer you a glimpse of mozzarella being stretched by hand). Dowding's entry was drawn at random. She will receive a copy of the latest edition of Historic Buildings: Ann Arbor, Michigan, by Marjorie Reade and Susan Wineberg.

by Jay Forstner

It's remarkable what a familiar face Ed Nimby has become in Ann Arbor politics, considering he's never held office and, of course, doesn't exist. But the persistent candidate keeps turning up in nearly every election, including last month, When he was spotted in the Fake Ad for Ed B. Nimby on p. 28. The magic word

arborweb was hidden in the letters corresponding to the phone number for Ed's campaign office.

By now Ed B. Nimby could probably win an election in Ann Arbor by name recognition alone," wrote Ann Arbor's John Alden, "but he's got to be the year's easiest Fake Ad." He was easy enough for our winner, Earline Hefferlin, and fifty other Fake Adders to spot. Hefferlin is taking her gift certificate to Ace Barnes Hardware.

To enter the contest for December, identify the Fake Ad by name and page number, and let us know at the address below. The winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate to any business advertising in



Ed B. Nimby for U.S. Senate

"As your senator, I will fight to keep Michigan at the forefront of progress. I will be your voice in Washington. And when Jennifer Granholm is also a senator, I will work with her to represent our great state at the national level."

Send separate entries to Fake Ad or I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 201 Catherine, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104. Fax: (734) 769-4950. E-mail: penny@aaobserver. com. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received in the Observer office by noon on Monday, December 11, are eligible for the December drawings.



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EVENTS AT A GLANCE







Holiday season events include a concert of Christmas and Hanukkah music by the Galliard Brass Ensemble December 1, the Ypsilanti Holiday Homes Tour December 10, and Rita Mazza's award-winning play *Parked* staged by Orpheus Productions December 7–10 and 14–17, as well as two Boar's Head Festivals, Hanukkah celebrations, and numerous appearances by Santa.

A capsule guide to selected major events in December. See p. 77 for a complete listing of this month's Gallery, Band, and Events reviews. Daily events listings also begin on p. 77.

Classical & Religious Music

- Galliard Brass Ensemble, Dec. 1
- Today's Brass Quintet, Dec. 2
- U-M Women's Glee Club, Dec. 2
- University Choral Union's Messiah, Dec. 2 & 3
- U-M Marching Band, Dec. 3
- U-M Michigan Chamber Players, Dec. 3
- · Arianna String Quartet, Dec. 3
- Organist James Kibbie, Dec. 3 & 17
- EMU Festival of Lessons & Carols, Dec. 3
- Pianist Sean Duggan, Dec. 6, 9, 11, & 14
- Measure for Measure men's chorus, Dec. 8
- Vocal Arts Ensemble, Dec. 9
- U-M Contemporary Directions Ensemble, Dec. 9
- · Community Messiah Sing, Dec. 10
- Ann Arbor Concert Band, Dec. 10
- Chamber Music Ann Arbor, Dec. 10
- Boychoir of Ann Arbor, Dec. 15 & 16
- Ann Arbor Cantata Singers, Dec. 17
- St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Festival of Lessons & Carols, Dec. 17
- Our Own Thing Chorale, Dec. 19
- First Presbyterian Church Festival of Lessons & Carols, Dec. 24
- First Baptist Church Festival of Lessons & Carols Dec 24

Lectures & Readings

• Playwright Athol Fugard, Dec. 4 & 5

Parked

- Poet Ken Cormier, Dec. 4
- Architectural sculptor Mary Miss, Dec. 8
- Poet Richard Tillinghast, Dec. 11

Ethnic & Traditional Music

- Paddy Keenan (Irish), Dec. 5
- Johnny Cunningham & Susan McKeown (Celtic), Dec. 12
- The House Band (Celtic), Dec. 14
- Herdman, Hills, & Mangsen (folk), Dec. 17
- Finvarra's Wren (Celtic), Dec. 19
- Crossroads Ceili (Celtic), Dec. 29 & 30

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- Peer Gynt (U-M Residential College), Dec. 1 & 2
- Rhinoceros (Community High School), Dec. 1
- The Sorcerer (U-M Gilbert & Sullivan Society), Dec. 1–3
- Fuddy Meers (Performance Network), Dec. 1–3, 7–10, 14–17, & 21–23
- The Nutcracker (Ypsilanti Area Dancers), Dec. 2 & 3
- Parked (Orpheus Productions), Dec. 7–10 & 14–17
- To Kill a Mockingbird (U-M Theater Department), Dec. 7–10
- Amahl and the Night Visitors (Dexter Community Players), Dec. 8–10
- The Tempest (U-M Theater Department), Dec. 14–16
- The Nutcracker (Ann Arbor Ballet Theater), Dec. 22 & 23

Comedy & Performance Art

- Comic Elliott Branch, Dec. 1 & 2
- Ann Arbor Poetry Slam, Dec. 5 & 19
- Comic Mike Hessman, Dec. 7-9
- Comic Willie Barcena, Dec. 14-16
- Comic Peter Berman, Dec. 21–23
- Comic Joel Zimmer, Dec. 28–30
- Comic Jackie Flynn, Dec. 31

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- St. Nicholas Light Display at Domino's, nightly
- Holiday bazaars & sales, Dec. 1, 2, 3, 7, 9, 10, 11, & 14
- "Christmas Walk Through Earhart Manor," Dec. 1–5
- "Holiday Evening in Saline," Dec. 1
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Christmas Creche Display, Dec. 1–3
- Chelsea Festival of Lights, Dec. 1 & 2
- Main Street "Festive Friday Holiday Nights," Dec. 1, 8, 15, & 22
- Concordia College Boar's Head Festival,
 Dec. 1–3
- Dexter's Victorian Christmas, Dec. 2 & 9
- Waterloo Area Farm Museum "Victorian Christmas on the Farm," Dec. 2
- U-M Kwanzaa Celebration, Dec. 8
- First Presbyterian Church Boar's Head Festival, Dec. 8 & 9
- Grand Traditions "Victorian Balmoral Ball," Dec. 9
- Ypsilanti Holiday Homes Tour, Dec. 10
- Anthroposophical Society Christmas Festival, Dec. 16
- African American Cultural and Historical Museum Kwanzaa Celebration, Dec. 30
- Ypsilanti New Year Jubilee, Dec. 31

Films

- Premiere of local filmmaker Jack Fishstrom's debut feature film Voices, Dec. 2
- Fiddler on the Roof sing-along screening, Dec. 25

Pop, Rock, Blues, & Jazz

- 58 Greene (a cappella), Dec. 1
- Karla Bonoff (singer-songwriter), Dec. 1
- Benny Green Trio (jazz), Dec. 1 & 2
- Mare Winningham (singer-songwriter), Dec. 2
- Willy Porter (singer-songwriter), Dec. 3
- Man or Astro-Man (surf), Dec. 3
- · moe. (jam band), Dec. 6
- Koo Nimo (African high-life), Dec. 6
- Paul Thorn (singer-songwriter), Dec. 6
- Dennis Cyporyn Band (bluegrass), Dec. 7
- Amazin' Blue (a cappella), Dec. 8
- Brian Lillie (singer-songwriter), Dec. 8
- The Chenille Sisters (pop), Dec. 8
- Wallace Roney (jazz), Dec. 8 & 9
- Harmonettes (a cappella), Dec. 9
- Kol Hakavod (a cappella), Dec. 9
- Ute Lemper (cabaret), Dec. 9
- Trippin' Billies (Dave Matthews tribute),
 Dec. 9
- Just Friends Ensemble (pop standards),
- First Unitarian Church "Holiday Ragtime Bash" with Mr. B, Bob Milne, Mike Montgomery, Kerry Price, Bob Seeley, James Dapogny & Susan Chastain, and Bolcom & Morris, Dec. 10
- Medeski, Martin, & Wood (improvisational), Dec. 13
- Joel Mabus (folkie singer-songwriter),
- Spanky Wilson (jazz), Dec. 15 & 16
- · Over the Rhine (rock 'n' roll), Dec. 16
- Johnny O'Neal Trio (jazz), Dec. 22 & 23
 George Bedard & the Kingpins, Billy Kirchen, & Sarah Brown (roots rock),
- Dec. 27
- Shahida Nurallah (jazz), Dec. 29–31
 Uncle Bonsai (pop-folk), Dec. 31

Conferences & Forums

- U-M conference on "Death and Its Enemies," Dec. 1 & 2
- Great Lakes Falun Gong Convention, Dec. 9

Family & Kids' Stuff

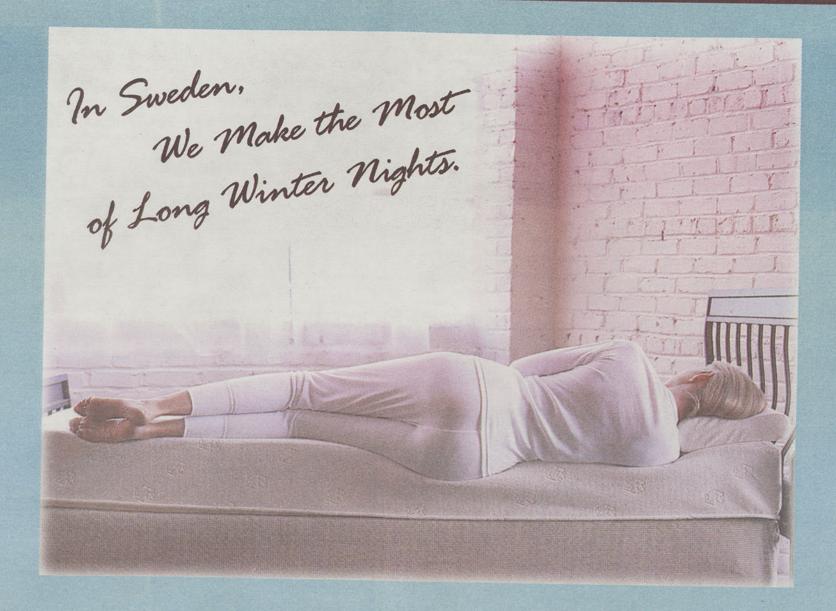
- A Christmas Carol (EMU Theater of the Young), Dec. 1–3, 8, & 9
- Children's Holiday Parade, Dec. 3
- The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse (Wild Swan Theater), Dec. 6–10
- "Sing Along with Santa" (Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra), Dec. 9
- Ann Arbor Youth Chorale, Dec. 9
- The Very Happy Caterpillar and The Very Quiet Cricket (Mermaid Theater), Dec. 10
- The Music Man (Young People's Theater), Dec. 14–17
- Merlin, Arthur, and the Magic Sword (Young Actors Guild), Dec. 15–17
- Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts winter concerts, Dec. 17

Miscellaneous

Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count,
 Dec. 16

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

 U-M Clements Library re-creation of a debate between Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton on "The American System of Government," Dec. 12



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